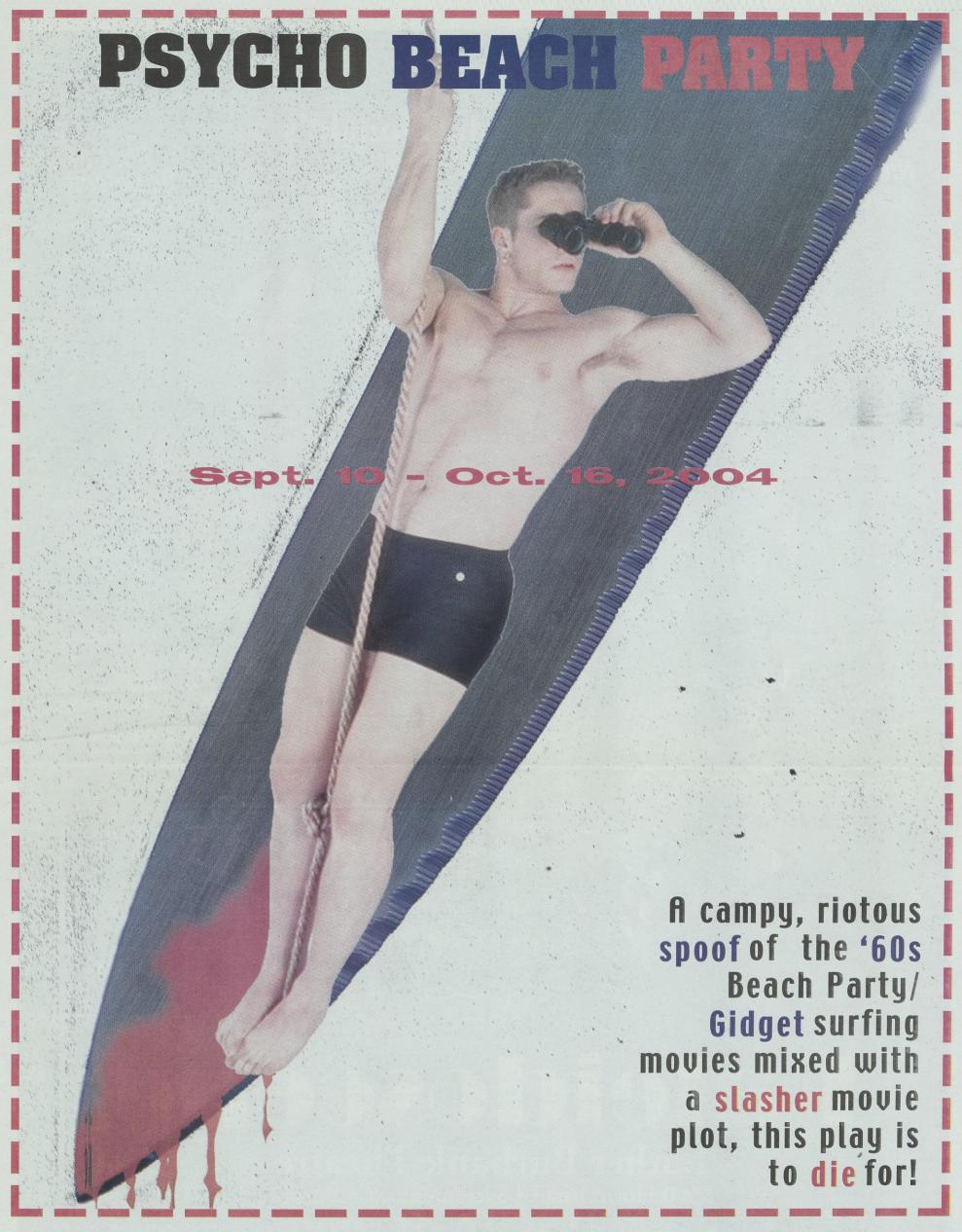
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SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

SACRAMENTO'S GLBT COMMUNITY VOICE

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Vol. 1, Issue 4 • September 1, 2004

### SHOW YOUR TRUE COLORS AT THE RAINBOW FESTIVAL!



### "UPTOWN GIRL!"

**COVER PHOTOGRAPHY BY CURTIS HAGAN** 



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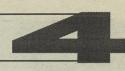


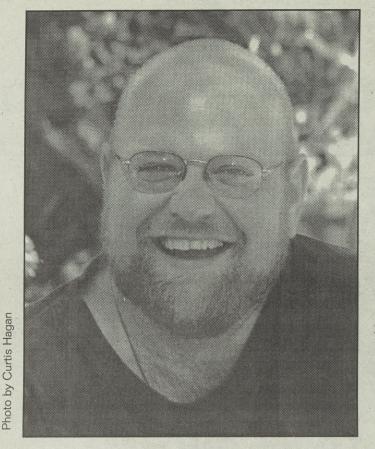
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### LARRY McFall

JUST GOT BACK FROM VISITING MY FAMILY IN ARIZONA. I LOVE MY FAMILY VERY MUCH AND THERE'S A LOT TO LOVE AS I AM THE YOUNGEST OF ELEVEN CHILDREN. I WAS 4 1/2 YEARS YOUNGER THEN MY NEXT OLDER BROTHER, SO IN MANY WAYS, I FELT LIKE AN ONLY CHILD WHILE GROWING UP, EXCEPT AROUND THE HOLIDAYS WHEN THE WHOLE FAMILY WOULD CONVERGE ON MY PARENTS HOUSE AND THERE WERE DOZENS OF US THROUGHOUT THE HOMESTEAD. EIGHT OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS GOT MARRIED AND ALL HAD AT LEAST TWO CHILDREN, OR ADOPTED THEIR SPOUSE'S KIDS FROM PREVIOUS MARRIAGES. I'VE BEEN AN UNCLE SINCE I WAS THREE.

My family was always into games, from card and board games, to my brothers, brother-in-laws, and I all playing on a softball team, and my sisters and sister-in-laws played with us in a volleyball league. It was a way for us to spend more time together, and everyone enjoyed it. But as other families, as we got older, we grew apart.

But, there isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about most, if not all of my family in Arizona, and as much as I like going to visit, it's still not the same as the "family" I have here built for myself here in California, and I always look forward to getting home.

I like being able to be the person I want to be, instead of the person my family feels I should be. My being gay is not a topic of conversation among my family. there are a few of them who are comfortable with it, and I can discuss my life openly and honestly, but the majority of my loved ones are much happier if I just don't mention

that part of my life. Their love for me is genuine and they verbally tell me they are OK with my being gay, but they then add that they just don't feel it is something we should talk about—as if I were discussing bodily functions during dinner. They make it clear that they don't want me to talk about...me.

They don't want to hear about the man I'm in love with, they don't want to hear about my friends who are nationally known gay playwrights, or about my meeting some of the most powerful political figures in California that help in the struggle for gay rights. And they definitely don't want to hear about my launch of the Q-Ragg. All that, to them, is just as graphic as me talking about what position I take in the bedroom. I don,t want to talk about those private moments with anyone, even my closest friends, much less my family. But they seem to think if they indulge me for even a moment I'll be breaking out the porn any

There's family, and then there's FAMILY!

moment. I have learned to not bother mentioning anything about my life in California.

I have never been happier than in the months since starting the Q-Ragg, with a mission to bring local focus to Sacramento's GLBT community. This paper is something I am very excited about, because I have found a way to give back to the community and find a positive outlet for my activism. I went back for my visit armed with copies of the paper and a hope that this time would be different.

Some of the younger members of my family—nephews and nieces—wanted to read it, but only two of my siblings would even talk about what I was doing without cutting me off in mid sentence to change the subject. I have to admit, this time hurt more than others because this time, I was prouder than ever to be a member of this community.

In the past few months I have met some of the most astounding people I have ever had the privilege to meet. Fellow business owners at the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, the folks at the Stonewall Democratic Club, and so many wonderful, goodhearted people in our community I had no idea were here working their asses off to make our community run.

I've also had the chance to work with some incredibly talented writers, artists and others who were just looking for the right outlet for their voices.

This time, I was more excited than ever to get home. Coming home to Sacramento allows me to be who I am and I am surrounded by my GLBT family members who will never cut me off mid-sentence when I talk about boyfriends, friends or anything else that might reflect my life as a gay man.

But I still feel a profound sadness about the lack of communication with the family I left in Arizona. And I'm certain there are thousands upon thousands of others like me out there whose families clam up at the mere mention of the word "gay". When we can't even go back home and talk about the issues we face with the ones we love, to have the opportunity to make them understand what we have to deal with on a day to day basis, then it's no wonder these battles are taking us so long to win.

They have no problem listening to people like Rush Limbaugh and our illustrious President when they talk about how all gay people are tearing down the very fiber of our families with our so called "gay agenda", but you would think that those closest to us would want to hear our side of the story as well. I'm finding these days that the only word that matters is the one that speaks the loudest and has the money to say it over and over again.

The GLBT community has become my second family and I have gotten as close to some of those in the community as I am to my family back home. The great thing with those in our community is that I can be myself and talk to them about anything I want.

As much as I love my real family, I value the family I have in our community—my community—as much, if not sometime more, just for the support and friendships that have come to me tenfold.



LARRY AND MAYOR FARGO

LARRY WELCOMES
COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS THAT HELP TO
STRENGTHEN AND NURTURE OUR COMMUNITY
AND ITS VOICE. YOU MAY
DROP HIM AN EMAIL AT:
PUBLISHER@Q-RAGG.COM





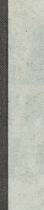


### TERS PAGE





### **Just Do Something!**



MATTHEW BURLINGAME A STRONGER COMBREAM AND ASTRONGER COMBREAM AND ASTRONGER COMBREAM AND ASTRONGER COMBREAM ASTRONGER COMBREAM

NEED I SAY MORE?



Go SIRENS!

want to say "Thanks" for putting the woman's football team: Sacramento Sirens on the cover of issue #3! This group has won three Championships which goes to show their dedication, skill, and hard work ethic along with team play! I know, I know, The Monarchs and Kings will win someday, but, right here, right now we have a championship team & they are finally getting the respect & press they deserve! C'mon, you have moms, coworkers, and all those female emotions pulling together for the good of the sport-not \$\$\$ or fame! What a novel concept. Their inspiration makes me ask if your paper could do a few feature articles on individuals? You go Sirens! And please continue to cover their progress...Great job! Once again "Thanks" from a fan.

Rusty C Mendez **Q-Munity Member** 

### RANT-AGEOUS!

Ragg writer Sam Catalano is an incredible LGBT advocate. The column "Sam's Rant" is just one of many pursuits to educate and alleviate the community. I first met Sam at Equality for Sacramento Families, a group that helped prevent the rights in AB 205 (Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act of 2003) from being repealed. At a local marriage rally, he sat



near the stage with a rainbow flag, and stood on the stage with a prideful speech. Sam spoke at C.K. McClatchy High, for the annual Acceptance & Awareness Week. As a heterosexual; nontransgendered individual, LGBT community adults such as Sam Catalano motivate and inspire me. Recognition of LGBT individuals and relationships will continue to increase thanks to courageous, persistent efforts. Thanks!

Sincerely, **Lindsey Young Q-Munity Member** 

### TALKING BACK TO MOTHER

ear Mom, I need to disagree with your response to "Dog Gone Frustrated." This poor guy was complaining about the pet dog that belonged to the guy he was dating. He felt that the dog should not be in bed

with them. You told the writer to tell his date to choose between sleeping with the dog or sleeping with the boyfriend. Honey, you deserve the "wet noodle treatment," for dishing out advise like that. There is no faster way to break up a couple than asking a pet owner to make that kind of decision. If the dude complaining about the dog wants to continue dating the dog owner, than he had better learn to accept that animal. Dog owners love their pets. Canine owners tend to build extremely close relationships with their critters. How long has he had the dog? How long has he been dating this guy? You do the math. If the guy wants to continue dating this dog owner, his ONLY option is to accept the pet. If he can't learn to love that dog, then he needs to find someone else to date. Something about "If you can't beat um them join um," comes to mind. Enjoy the wet noodle. If you keep giving out advise like that, you can plan on turning into Sacramento's newest pasta

### **Another Dog Owner**

Letters to the Editor: Please include your first and last name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters or emails submitted without this information will not be printed. Thank you.

**Editor, Q-Ragg Magazine** 717 K Street, Suite 519 Sacramento, CA 95814 Email: editor@q-ragg.com



### **Open Letter** to the Community

s a gay man with over 30 years experience as an LGBTI rights advocate, I am embarrassed by and ashamed of the opposition from some in our community to the addition of transgender people to the Employment Non Discrimination Act (ENDA). It is just plain selfish to say that we should work to end discrimination against lesbians, gays, and bisexuals now, but transgender people will have to wait. The opposition to adding transgender people to ENDA suggest an attitude of; "I want what's good for me and I don't care about other people's needs.

I see no particular reason why lesbians, gays, and bisexuals should go first. They don't merit protection more than transgender people. In fact, one could reasonably argue that transgender people should get protections first. Society is much more accepting of lesbians and gays than they used to be. Transgender people experience more discrimination and persecution.

Can we be sure that lesbians, gays, and bisexuals will work as hard for transgender rights in the future if an ENDA, without transgender people, is passed. My experience tells me that's not likely.

Some say adding transgender people to ENDA will make it harder to pass. Frankly, we have spent 30 years trying to gain passage of legislation that protects only lesbians gays and bisexuals. The first attempt was made by Representative Bella Abzug, D-New York in 1975. She attempted to add sexual orientation to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. After 30 years of trying, we have to admit the exclusion of transgender people is a failed strategy. Rather than fighting to exclude an important segment of the LGBTI com-. munity from ENDA we should be focusing on finding the real reasons for the failure of our current strategy. We should concentrate on determining what changes are needed to gain passage of ENDA. Clearly we need a better plan.

One problem with the current strategy is that it divides our community. As a civil rights advocate, I know, the more people working in support of a bill the more likely it is to pass. Adding transgender people to ENDA is likely to increase the number of individuals and organizations working in support of the bill.

For 30 years we have been telling transgender people be patient we'll get to you later. It will probably take another 10 to 20 years, at least, to get Congress to pass ENDA. Is it reasonable to ask transgender people to wait 40-50 years BEFORE WE EVEN START to work on protecting their rights? Clearly the answer is no. We should begin now to work hard for the rights of all the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community.

Boyce Hinman, Chief Lobbyist The Lambda Letters Project www.lambdaletters.org



### Q-MUNITY NEWS



# Transgender FTM's harassed in Lambda Center parking lot

wo male to female transgender members of the local Sacramento Gender Association were subject to sexual escapades by an unknown individual on two separate occasions in August, both in the Lambda Center parking lot. After the meeting on Saturday, Aug. 14th two MTF's, who asked that their identities be withheld for safety reasons, got into their car. As they were talking, a man in a hooded sweatshirt approached them, leaned on the car next to them and began to speak to them. Thinking he was asking them for money, the two were surprised when they looked out to see the man rapidly masturbating himself just outside their car window. The driver quickly started the car and began to back away as the man began to yell and angrily approach the car. They escaped unharmed, but shaken. When asked to describe the assailant, the driver said, "He was average height and build, dark complected and may have spoken with an accent." The passenger, who was closest to the attacker, said merely, "It wasn't very big." Two weeks later on Saturday, Aug. 28., two FTM's reported being harassed at the Mercantile and their car followed for several blocks as they drove away from the Lambda Center parking lot. The description of the second assailant's physical description and clothing matches that of the earlier man.

### 4th Annual Sacramento Valley AIDS Walk coming up soon

unday, Sept. 12, 2004, is the 4th Annual Sacramento Valley AIDS Walk. Registration for the event starts at 9am on the West steps of the State Capitol, and the walk begins at 10am. The walk is a project of the Capital City Aids Fund, and the proceeds benefit many agencies in and around the Sacramento Valley; Breaking Barriers,

CARES, Golden Rule Services, and the UC Davis Children's HIV Clinic are just a few of the agencies that will receive funds from this years walk. If you are interested in registering to walk, please contact the Walk Coordinator at 800-583-1134, or you can register online at www.capcityaidsfund.org.

### McMartin Realty Grand Opening

rian McMartin, broker/ owner of McMartin Realty will be hosting a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Grand Opening of his new office, located at 2034 "K" Street, right on the corner of 21st Street and "K", in midtown. Brian has invited the community to come and take a tour of their new offices on Thursday, Sept. 2, 2004, from 4:30-7:30pm. The ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 4:45, with a reception to follow. For more information about McMartin Realty, check out McMartinRealty.com, or call 447-1600.

### Show us your Patriotism

he Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento is sponsoring a Best Bush Drag Show or Impersonation at FACES on Thursday, Sept. 2, 2004 from 6-8pm. NO, we're not talking that kind of Bush, we're talking about Dub-Yah! There will be prizes for the best Bush impersonation and costume. After the contests, you can stay and heckle Bushes speech from /-8pm as this is a free speech zone. The contest are free to enter, so come out and enjoy the fun.

### Lambda Players launch season with Psycho Beach

ambda Players are kicking off their 16th season with Charles Busch's much loved *Psycho Beach Party*. The play is directed by Thomas Bach, who reprises his director role from the first Lambda Players' production of the show 10 years ago. lambdaplayers.com



### ASIK FATHER DAVID

Dear Sather David,

I have a friend who I'm close to and have been for about three years. Recently, in a weird moment, we had sex. I was able to get over it, but he shut me out of his life for about 6 months. Now he seems to want to pick up our friendship where we

left off, but I'm still really hurt about his shutting me out. When I bring it up he avoids the topic. It makes me feel like I'm being childish. Should I just let it go?

—Daniel in Sacramento

### Brother Daniel,

The sex issue I would let that go, for he is not ready to talk about it now. On the other hand, the six months apart is a different issue and should be addressed for you, tell him you've missed him and that all obstacles in the future should be faced together.

### Dear Sather David,

I have two jobs. Both jobs depend on me a great deal, but working both of them is causing my work in both places to suffer. I want to quit one job, but I am worried about how they will get along without me because I am the only one who knows how to do the job I do there. I feel so guilty for wanting to quit. Any advice you could give? —Susan in Sacramento

### Sister Susan,

Start a "How To Guide" for your position at the job in question, a manual that will give a run down of your job duties and as much insight into the how, why and when's. You should not feel guilty for management's lack of insight into your job and your duties, but you shouldn't leave them without the means to function either. Realize for yourself that any job worth doing should be done right, in saying this, one job should not have to suffer at the hands of another. Good luck

### Dear Sather David,

I've been in a relationship for two years. I like to go out and have fun seeing movies, going to Club 21 and volunteering. But my partner is very jealous and we've stopped doing many of these things because we always seem to fight afterward. I have lost contact with almost all of my friends, and recently I found out that she isn't giving me their messages. I'm sick of being home all the time, but I don't know what I would do without her. I need help. — Chloe in Elk Grove

### Sister Phloe,

These issues do not go away, the resentment will disable the happiness in your relationship. Bring your feelings of isolation up, own your feelings and make no accusations toward her. If this conversation is met with harsh reaction, then it could be time to bring in a couples councilor. Remember, if this relationship is worth keeping, then its worth talking.

### Dear Sather David,

I am having a big dinner party to celebrate my husband's retirement. I want to invite our neighbors who are a lesbian couple. They are very nice women and good neighbors. My husband is quite fond of them. The problem is since the party is for my husband, I'm forced to invite his brother who is a homophobic loudmouthed moron; and, unfortunately another person my husband is fond of. Do I invite my neighbors and pray "moron" can keep this mouth shut or not invite them and risk hurting their feelings? —Marilyn in Sacramento

### Dear Marylin,

Invite everyone. If you feel that the situation could get out of control, have your husband speak to his brother beforehand about disrespectful behavior. Everyone should be there for your husband's retirement party but what people take away from the experience is out of your hands. Have a great party.

"Ask Father David" is for entertainment purposes only. Neither The Q-Ragg nor the author can be held liable for any injury or loss, perceived or actual resulting from the above mentioned entertainment.

### 7

### **AIDS' Vicious Cycle-ist**

By David Warpness/Q-Ragg

### A lesson on the NorCal AIDS Challenge with founder Rich Kirkham

F RIDING A BIKE 360 MILES IN FOUR DAYS ONLY MAKES YOU THINK OF HAVING A SORE ASS—AND NOT THE GOOD KIND—KEEP READING. THE NORCAL AIDS CHALLENGE, A BIKE RIDE THROUGH 26 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES, IS AN EVENT BEING PLANNED BY AN ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF 12 LOCAL GLBT FOLK FOR NEXT MAY BUT NOW IS THE TIME TO BEGIN TO THINK AND TALK ABOUT TAKING ON THE CHALLENGE.

Rich Kirkham, one of the founders of the event said, "I have participated in other quality cycling events such as the AIDS Lifecycle but the money donated does not come back to Sacramento and knowing that we realized that the time had come for Sacramento to host it's own cycling event." For those who are not aware of the AIDS Lifecycle it is a 7 day 585 mile bike ride between San Francisco and Los Angeles that takes place in June with the beneficiaries being San Francisco and Los Angeles based.

The NorCal AIDS Challenge, a 4 day 360 mile ride beginning and ending at the same point, will benefit Breaking Barriers Community Services Center and CARES, both located in Sacramento and serving the local area. Also the NorCal Challenge is being produced as an event that is volunteer and pro-bono based so there will be not large sums of money going to promoters and staff as with other such type events. "We have no interest in becoming an industry, but want to remain a cause," Rich said.

There are plans for the ride becoming an annual event that donates unrestricted funds to local agencies as well as setting up a mini-grant program for special community projects that target helping those living with HIV/AIDS. Rich said, "The event is scalable as in no large overhead expense so if we have 200 or 50 riders the event can go on." For this first year one hundred riders would make the event smashing success.

This labor of love will take these riders and the crew on the roads less traveled through 26 communities including Oroville, Chico, Red Bluff, Colusa and Davis, all communities that have been touched by the disease but

have little support when it comes to dealing with the toll it takes on loved ones. While in a small town researching the route Rich Kirkham stopped at a McDonalds and struck up a conversation with a man working there, it just happens that the gentleman had lost his son to AIDS. Touched by the efforts of the NorCal AIDS Challenge the man is offering to help any way he can.

"Small town reaction has been good. This puts a face on it for these small towns and it helps the people to know that other people do care," Rich said. This ride makes the statement in these communities that there are local people who care and want to help with the tragedy of HIV/AIDS.

The planning of the NorCal AIDS
Challenge has been going on for over
nine months but the excitement is just
starting to take hold as the press
release is out, the web site (www.norcalaidschallenge.org) is set to launch
September 5 and members of various
committees will start to attend such
events as the Rainbow Festival,
Capital City AIDS Walk and the Chico
Pride Festival to inform the public of
this new opportunity to have fun, meet
people and raise money for people living with HIV and AIDS.

The Organizing Committee is seeking local experienced cyclist to assist in planning the event, and is also soliciting corporate sponsorships at this time to help cover the costs of the event. For more information on how to become involved with the NorCal AIDS Challenge Organizing Committee, or to hid out how your company or organization can support the event, please call Rich Kirkham at (916) 600-5355, or Paul Curtis at (916) 925-1703.



Courtesy Photo/SVB-CJV



There are many ways to get involved, some that mean never having to get on a bike, so don't count yourself out yet. The following are answers to some questions as you ponder what you can do to help make this event a success.

#### Q. I have not been on a bike for years. How much training will I have to do?

A. The course is a mild terrain with some alternative routes for the more experienced riders. There are weekly training rides for those who want to meet other riders and feel more prepared. You would be surprised how quickly you will condition yourself for the ride.

### Q. Do I have to buy a lot of equipment?

A. No. A bike, helmet, shoes, a couple pair of cycling shorts, sleeping bag and a tent and you are all set. If you don't own a bike NorCal AIDS Challenge even has people to help you choose the bike that would be best for you without over spending.

### Q. What about food and a shower?

A. NorCal AIDS Challenge is a fully supported event. We will be staying at various fairgrounds that have shower facilities and all the food, hot breakfast, box lunch, hot dinner are provided.

### Q. How much does it cost?

A. There is a \$50.00 registration fee and a commitment of \$1800.00 in donations per rider.

### Q. \$1800.00!!!!!?

A. The \$1800.00 does not come out of your pocket. It is the amount you commit to raising through sponsors. Even if you don't have enough friends, family and coworkers to come up with full amount NorCal AIDS Challenge has ways to help and support you

come up with the sponsorship money. They will even help you build your own web page for donations.

### Q. Look, I just don't want to ride a bike that far what else can I do?

A. Many volunteers are needed along the 360 mile route. Everything from cooks, to camp set up, to trucking the gear, a sweep patrol team is needed to make sure the route is clear for the riders, a medical crew, a rest stop crew for the rest stops that are set up every 20 miles along the route.

### Q, OK, there are lots of things for me to do but how much time will I need to take off from work?

A. The ride is set for Wednesday May 18 through Saturday May 21st so if you work M-F then you are just taking off three days and have Sunday to rest up before you go back to work.

### Q. When I lose this newspaper and want the information again where do I go?

A. Go to the web site at www.nor-calaidschallenge.com for all of this information and more. The web site will tell you when informational sessions are taking place, training and nutritional information and information on getting help with securing sponsor-ships and a whole lot more.

Any business
that sponsors a rider
in the Norcal AIDS
challenge will be
given a free I year
listing in the Q-Ragg
business directory.



### Bears In The Sac a huge success!



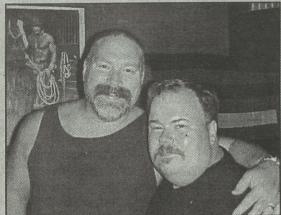
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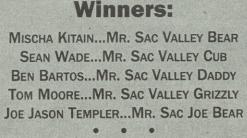
MISCHA KITAIN WINS MR. SAC VALLEY BEAR TITLE



SEAN WADE WINS MR. SAC VALLEY CUB



ORGANIZERS RAY WELCH & TOM SWANNER



BRIAN JUDD...CONTESTANT
DAVID PEREZ...CONTESTANT
ROQUE YANEZ...CONTESTANT
TIM ANTONOPOLOS...CONTESTANT



FUN AT THE B.I.T.S. POOL PARTY



HANGIN' OUT AT THE MEET & GREET

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### **Mr. Valley Bear Judges:**

PETE UPTON SVB 2002-03
BRIAN WILLIAMS NORT CAL LEATHER SIR 2003
JOHN YANT MR. BOLT LEATHER 2004-5
SCOTT HUNTER INTL MR BEAR 2004

### **Contest Hosts:**

TOM SWANNER & LARRY MCFALL



Q-RAGG'S BRIAN JUDD AS A CONTESTANT

### Uptown Studios' drag queen contest on August 27th gives everyone a night of fun

**Photos by Curtis Hagan** 



















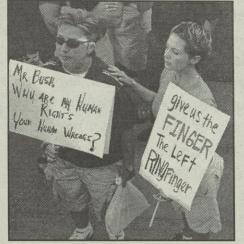
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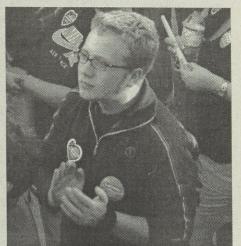


### MECA draws many to march for rights



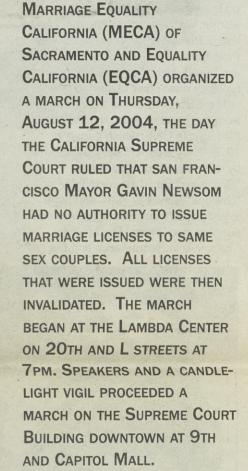












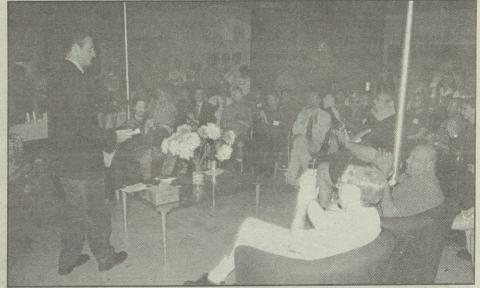




The Rainbow Chamber of Commerce hosts an evening with special guest speaker Mayor Heather Fargo

## Photos by Curtis Hagan













### Sisters of Scota Women's Motorcycle Club

By Ricky Diaz Anaya/Q-Ragg

HEN I THINK OF PRIDE PARADES THAT I HAVE BEEN TO ALL OVER CALIFORNIA IN THE LAST 15 YEARS IT'S USUALLY THE 'DYKES ON BIKES' THAT KICK OFF THE FESTIVITIES AND PARADES. MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN ALIKE ARE FASCINATED WITH THE HUN-DREDS OF WOMEN BIKERS AT THESE EVENTS ROARING DOWN THE STREET. BUT WHERE DO ALL THESE HUNDREDS OF WOMEN COME FROM?

IN SACRAMENTO, I'VE DISCOVERED THE SISTERS OF SCOTA W.M.C AND RECENTLY WAS FORTUNATE TO SPEAK WITH THE CURRENT PRESIDENT KNOWN IN THE SISTERHOOD AS SWITCH.

I've always been a wee bit intimidated by women dressed up in their leather, riding motorcycles, and I know this is the same for some of my gay male friends, as well. But, these fears are based mostly on outdated stereotypes of male biker clubs.

The Sisters of Scota W.M.C evolved from the Leather and Lace Women's Motorcycle Club, which began in 1979. They were officially established by still active founders Dayna "Grumbles" Davidson and Tyler "Gramps" Sands in 1981 and have experienced tremendous growth and success ever since. The Mother Chapter is in Sacramento and the

The group's name is derived from one of the founder's Scottish background and principles that women bikers ascribe to. Scota is an ancient Celtic warrior Goddess who taught male warrior's honorable and valuable

On the groups website is the following, "Most of our Sisters are proud to be "out" as gay women, but any woman who wants to join us may do so as long as they respect what we are all about. We are women who love to ride. We support women, children, animals, health and community events. We try to attend as many events and fundraisers as we possibly can. Also,

> we do not drink or use substances when we ride."

As I'm waiting in the coffee shop preparing interview questions, I begin wondering what Switch will look like. I expect a leather clad woman with short hair and an ultrabutch presence, or maybe a group of women all rid-

bikes hitting the coffeeshop like a thunderstorm. Soon enough, Switch walks in with her girlfriend and out



Photo by Ricky Diaz Anaya

went my swirling stereotypes. The woman who introduces herself with a warm smile has long curly blonde hair, blue eyes and is wearing jeans and her leather S.O.S.W.M.C. vest. She looks like any other patron at the shop.

Immediately I felt at ease and was intrigued to have learned that during the day, this biker goddess is a dress suit wearing, pump-toting Vice President of a bank, and a single

She then shared with me that some of her clients love that she's a motorcycle rider and have requested numerously for her to show up in her leather and riding her motorcycle.

Switch showed me her vest pointing out her membership patch and club motto; "Deal With It!" referring to homophobia. She added that The Sisterhood wears their patches with pride and are the only predominantly Lesbian motorcycle club in the area.

"We are respected and supported by many straight, mostly male bike clubs and even share in road trips and fundraising activities with these other clubs."

S.O.S.W.M.C. welcomes prospective members and friends to participate in the many social, fundraising, and riding events that they have regularly. In addition, they occasionally ride with men's bike groups because they support S.O.S.W.M.C social service events and vice versa.

Although the love of riding is a common bond between them, Switch tells me that it is a family-like setting where you can trust each other with your life on the road, and your back while off

Becoming a member of the pack isn't as easy as paying some dues and showing up to meetings. There is a 6month prospect phase and one must meet certain requirements. During the prospect phase, you are building relationships with the other members and trust within the biker family. The prospect must be licensed, have a minimum 700cc motorcycle of any brand, an always ride clean and sober. Once the prospect passes a minimum of 300 miles riding with a patched member, she can be voted in.

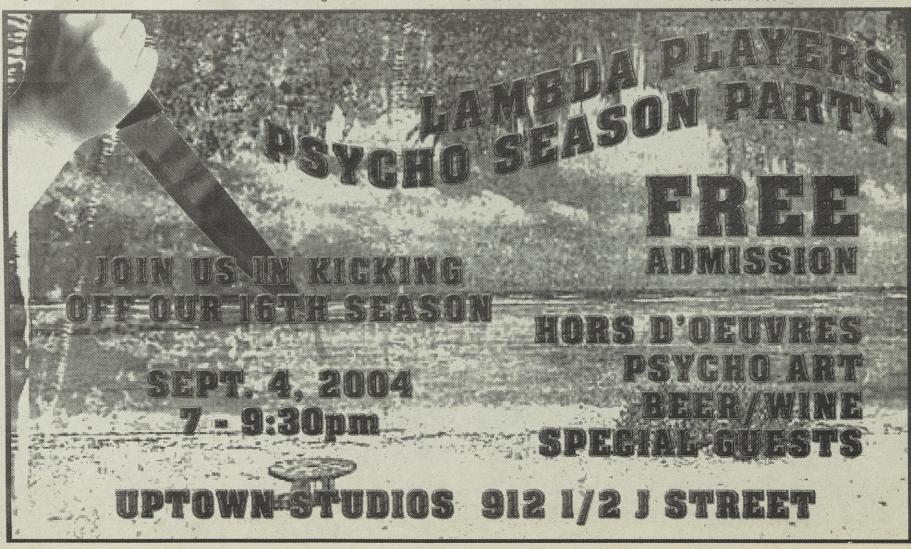
Switch and other members support Bikers Against Child Abuse, Breast Cancer events, the Sacramento **Emergency Housing Shelter for** Women, as well as many LGBT issues and groups. They are a very active and community oriented group.

The past year was a busy one for the group and for riding in pride parades. They kicked off pride celebrations on their motorcycles in Reno, San Jose, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Diego, Sacramento, and Fresno.

For more information on this incredible group of women, visit sistersofscotawmc.com



National Sisterhood represents groups throughout California, Washington and parts of Texas.



RAINBOW FESTIVAL

It's Coming. Can You Feel It?

Labor Day Weekend Sept 3-5

Festival Sussing Control of the Sussing Contr

3 Days September 3 4 5 of Pride 20th & K Sacramento

A Weekend Celebration of Music, Culture & Pride Culminating in a Massive Street Faire.

3 Clubs For The Price of One ...
ALL WEEKEND LONG!

20th & K is Your Playground!

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LIMITED NUMBER!
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FACES 18+ Dancing w/ DJ Markiemark Pepper Mashay Live at Midnight

DEPOT Comedienne Michelle Balan 9PM

CLUB 21 Virgo Party 8PM FACES
21+ Dancing
Kim English
Live at Midnight
DEPOT
Hypnotist

Paul Royter
CLUB 21
Ronnie & the Flight 8PM
Dancing w/DJ Lamarr

FACES 18+ Dancing! Downtown Divas 8PM Jeanie Tracy at 11PM Crystal Waters at Midnight

Crystal Waters at Midnight

DEPOT

FOUR Strippers! Includes both

MALE & FEMALE artists! 9PM

CLUB 21

DRAG KINGS! Male Illusionist

revue at 8PM. 21+ Dancing

STREET

rainbowjestival.com

# 3 Days of Pride

### Greetings

to our friends in the Sacramento-area communities and welcome to RAINBOW FESTIVAL 2004.

Annually on Labor Day Weekend, FACES, CGNIE, CLUB 21, and THE DEPOT sponsor 3 days of fun, headline entertainment, contests, and fundraisers which culminate in the Street Fair on Sunday September 5th (before Labor Day). Located at 20th & K Streets in Midtown Sacramento, the event draws up to 7,000 people. The signature Street Fair event features some of Sacramento's best local entertainment, Sammy-award winning live bands, and headliners in 4 themed staging areas. In addition, over 100 vendor booths offer a huge assortment of goods, services, information and food options throughout the

Over the past 15 years, RAINBOW FESTIVAL has raised over \$250,000 for local charity organizations such as Lambda Community Fund, Sunburst Foundation, Make-a-Wish Foundation, Fairy Godfathers' Fund, WEAVE, CARES, Breaking Barriers and many others. Founded in 1986 by Terry Sidie and Richard Boriolo as an entertainment-based Pride Event held in the back parking lot of FACES NIGHTCLUB, the fair has grown in size over the years to encompass the streets surrounding the intersection of 20th & K, and has expanded its focus to include events throughout the Labor Day Weekend.

This year, our goal has been to create a fun-filled event which is rooted deeply in the GLBT community and its friends. Each of our 4 staging areas are themed to represent different facets of Sacramento's diversity: The Main Stage represents award-winning local live entertainment which appeals to a mass audience, including Cheer San Francisco, The Transcendence Transgendered Gospel Choir, Mayor Heather Fargo, Bonnie Pointer and American Idol's Kimberly Locke as well as lots of Local Live Entertainment. At 11:30am join us as we celebrate Sacramento's first public gay marriage recognition ceremony. The newly-expanded Women's Stage features female-oriented groups and entertainment during the street fair hosted by CLUB 21. The DEPOT beer garden is a relaxing retreat from the heat with a tiki lounge and shady trees! The legendary Wet Tee Shirt and Wet Jockey Short contests at the close of the fair hosted by FRED PALMER of OUTWORD and JAMMIN JO from CLUB 21! Enjoy our Councourse D'Elegance Classic car show during the fair ... and enter to win a 1966 Ford Thunderbird, drawn at 11PM Sunday night!

With so much to choose from, our hope is that bringing together all the diversity Sacramento has to offer will make the experience memorable and fun for everyone. All proceeds from the gate charges, tickets sales, and outside beer garden areas go directly to the Rainbow Festival Fund, benefiting local

You can even rent your booth space or buy weekend passes for the events online! Please do visit today, and as always THANK YOU SACRAMENTO!

> Michael T. Johnston, II Chairman, President & CEO CGNIE, Inc. Rainbow Festival 2004

American Idol

A Special Sacramento Appearance by American Idol featuring And CURB Records

Debuting her "Wrong"



SUN. SEPT. 5! Bonnie Pointer ("Jump", "I'm So Excited") 2:40PM AT MAIN STAGE



SUN. SEPT. 5! CeCe Peniston ("Finally") 2PM AT FACES BIG TOP



FRI. SEPT. 3! Pepper Mashay ("Dive In The Pool" MIDNITE AT FACES



SUN. SEPT. 5! LIVE Strippers MALE AND FEMALE! 9PM AT THE DEPOT



FRI. SEPT. 3! Balan COMEDIENNE 9PM AT THE DEPOT



SUN. SEPT. 5! Crystal Waters ("Gypsy Woman", "100% Pure Love")
MIDNITE AT FACES



SAT. SEPT. 4! Kim English MIDNITE AT FACES



SUN. SEPT. 5! Jeannie Tracy ("Keep The Party Jumpin")



11PM AT FACES SAT. SEPT. 4! Paul Royter





Major Recording Artists & SAMMIE Winning Local Bands!

Jasmin & the Dirt Stars . The Essentials . GG Amos Band Stacie Eakes & the Superfreakes . Roni & the Flight . LuvTaxi Big John & the Chosen Few . Dyna 4 . Gayiel Von & Witness This!! Brother Nejarious . Honeyspot . Local Celebrity MC's and Much More!

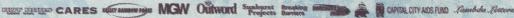
SECONIE FACES OLUB21















rainbowfestival.com



10:45AM to 5:30PM

Stage Manager ~ Gayiel Von

**SVL Color Guard** 10:45am to 11am

& National Anthem Sac Men's Cherus

Gaylel Von & Witness This?

Gay Wedding in recognition of those who took the risk to share their commitment with our community and the world

12pm to 12:45pm

**Cheer San Francisco** 12:45pm to 1:05pm

Adrian Klyne 1:05pm to 1:15pm **Production Number** 

**Brother Nejarious** 1:15pm to 2:15pm

**Cheer San Francisco** 2:15pm to 2:40pm **Bonnie Pointer** 2:40pm to 3:30pm

Honeyspot

Adrian Klyne Production Number

Kimberley Locke

**Cheer San Francisco** 

### Women's Tent

NOON - 5PM

Stage Manager ~ Jo Tierney

Noon to 1pm Jasmin & the Dirt Stars

1pm to 2pm The Essentials

2pm to 3pm @ Ames Band

3pm to 4pm Stacie Eakes & the Superfreakes

4pm to 5pm Rent & the Flight

### **FACES Big Top**

NOON - 7PM

12pm to 12:45pm

1pm to 1:45pm Big John & the Chosen Few

2pm to 3pm C.C. Peniston

3pm to 3:15pm Adrian Klyne Production Number

3:15pm to 4:30pm

**LAMBDA CENTER** 

**BE BOP** 

11am to 11:30am

11:30 to 12pm

3:30pm to 4:20pm

4:25pm to 4:35pm

4:35pm to 5:20pm

5:20pm to 5:40pm

Ramin Stiller

Karaoke Tent 200-314661

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HEAD HUNTERS

Main Stage

The state of the s

2001-37/166F Depot)

HOT RODS

FARES Big Top Women's Tent

21363THEET

26tanieer

OLUB21

21st STITEET

ASP



Order Online Now! Veekend Pass \$30

All Access! All Weekend Long! Gets You In To All 3 Clubs AND Street Faire! LIMITED NUMBER! **GOING FAST!** 

Sun. Sept. 5 10am-6pm

### SWANNER & JUD





### **Latter Days**

Judd: Last night we watched Latter Days. I was in the mood for something on the fluffy side and while I'm not a fan

Swanner: I LOVE romantic comedies, and I've been looking forward to seeing Latter Days since I first heard it was in the making. I have literally seen most of, have been released in the last ten years Latter Days. The storyline here is about group of Mormon missionaries move

preachy had there not been the twist. What bothered me the most about Latter Days is the relationship was struck up too quickly. Hell, I have a crush on the guy at the coffee shop I go to and I still can't talk to him. Here's a gay guy and a Mormon who meet doing laundry, trade a few movie quotes and suddenly it's love? Where's the awkwardness? The apprehension—at least on Aaron's part? Christian has the confidence of being able to get whomever he wants, but I think a Mormon-boy should have been a little slower to warm up. In 105 minutes, I'd expected to see more story development. Instead, I get the

roommate's godawful warbling.

Swanner: The Mormon boy turning gay should have been a slower process, but if

the audience wants more nude scenes, they are just going to have to imagine Aaron's struggle with everything while he's removing his clothes. I know I was more than willing to do that.

Judd: OK, I'll accept that they rushed the relationship to get the ball rolling so there could be more nudity, which there still wasn't enough of. Oh, and a note to the filmmakers: you can see Christian's "cock sock" in the mirror in the 'morning after' shot. AND, if the really wanted to cram more nudity into the film they could have trimmed that roommate's damned "singing." Have I mentioned I didn't like the singing?

Swanner: I think you did. The other thing that was interesting is that I expected an abundance of Mormon bashing, but instead we got a compassionate look at Aaron's family struggles and how the LDS church handles this situation. That surprised me because it would have mean so easy to take sides.

Judd: I thought there would be a lot more Mormon bashing, too, but actually the movie was more educational. What I know about Mormons is limited. I do know they have to wear special underwear-which, didn't Aaron fill out nicely?

Swanner: Yes, he did! With the limited budget, good script and good acting all around, I'll give this two bitchslaps.

Judd: I agree. Cute cast, interesting facts, decent story—it's a little shallow, but holds your interest. I also give Latter Days two bitchslaps—one for the singing, I REALLY hated the singing!

Swanner: Really? How come you didn't mention it before?



### Man On Fire



Swanner: I am not an action movie fan as they have to offer me more than just car crashes and gunfire. Luckily Man on Fire delivers, story, acting and action.

Judd: All it delivered to me was 142 ass-numbing minutes. The was drawn out, the action weak, and the acting-I was too busy fast-forwarding to notice.

Swanner: Well, before I tell you why you're wrong, let's talk about the plot.

Judd: You go ahead, I'm still trying to block it out.

Swanner: Denzel Washington stars as 'Creasy" a former special-ops who attempts to battle his personal demons by working as a bodyguard for a wealthy Mexican businessman to protect his young daughter (played by the amazing Dakota Fanning) from a rash of kidnappings in Mexico City which sends him on a one-man rampage for vengeance.

Judd: (Yawn!)

Swanner: I really cared about these characters. I was worried about the young girl, but also wanted to see Washington's character over come his demons. There was depth to the characters, which is something unseen in action films.

Judd: I couldn't have cared less about the characters and the little girl annoying and grating. After Creasy told her that he wasn't hired to be her friend and she got in the back seat, I was a little relieved that I wasn't going to have to deal with her for that instant. Of course what good is a child in a movie if they can't radiate "cuteness" so of course she was back riding shotgun within a couple scenes. Not only that, we have to deal with her for a full hour before they kidnap her. Thank goodness there's another hour and twenty minutes to get everything resolved! And, yes, that was sarcasm.

Swanner: You obviously have some personal issues to work through, and you're taking them out on one of-if not THE—best picture of the year. I was glued to the screen.

Judd: Oh, please! Best picture of the Year? Longest, maybe.

Swanner: I normally don't like movies by director Tony Scott. They're typical pretty-boy action flicks with slow motion volleyball scenes focusing on blonde women's breasts. But, this had real vision—everything worked for me; the gritty cinematography, fast paced editing and the even the musical score.

Judd: Real vision? Gritty cinematography? Oh, my God! The direction was horrible—it was choppy and loaded with cheesy gimmicks. I thought my DVD player, was fast forwarding until I realized, it was just flash editing. And then those subtitles—what were those were for? To accent the rage? To make the movie like a comic book? To get on my last friggin' nerve? What were they for?

Swanner: Effect! I loved the fight scenes. I wanted revenge right along with the character, although the ways Creasy gets people to talk is quite graphic-maybe too graphic for some. I was feeling Creasy's rage and needed to be witness of his revenge.

Judd: Aside from one scene, I didn't think the violence was all that graphicor captivating. All the twists and turns in the plot, by the time Greasy or Creasy or whatever the hell his name is figured out who was really responsible for kidnapping the girl-I didn't care! Not that I cared to begin with, but by the end I REALLY didn't care.

Swanner: Your bitterness has obviously tainted you against liking incredible films like this one. I do think it's the best picture of the year and I've never seen Denzel Washington better. The edginess he brings out is frightening. Dakota Fanning proves that she's one of the best young actresses in the business. Watching her in this film is like watching the early works of Jodie Foster.

Judd: My bitterness has nothing to do with it. So what if I didn't fall in love with the little girl-sue me.

Swanner: Next you're gonna tell me you hate puppies, too!

Judd: There is no excuse for choppy editing; comic book overtones to a supposedly serious movie: and uninspired. cliché characters. A washed up drunk ex-assassin? How many movies has that character been in? If he's not an assassin, he's a cop, or a special ops soldier, or an FBI agent. And this gun-toting man is given a reason to live again, that reason is taken away, he vows revenge.

Swanner: There are only so many storylines. Sure he's a drunk, washed up ex-assassin, but the performances, direction and a great script is what separates this film from the rest of them. Why don't you give us your rating so you can make it home in time for Jerry Springer.

Judd: I rate this trite waste of 140 minutes-cut down to 90 if you fast-forward through the gun fights and bravado—a full five bitchslaps.

Swanner: I give Man of Fire zero bitch slaps since I consider it one of the best pictures of the year.



of romance films, this one wasn't bad.

if not all, of the gay and lesbian films that and rarely do I see one as good as a shallow, good-looking waiter that has a

into the apartment across from him. He makes a bet with his fellow food servers that he can make a conquest of one of the Mormon guys. Of course, there will

be plenty of conflict since the Latter Day

Saints Church doesn't agree with "that

Judd: While this is not one of the best gay romantic comedies I've seen, it's better than the majority. Steve Sandvoss is adorable in that nerdy way as Mormon boy Aaron Davis. Wes Ramsey as Christian Markelli isn't really my type—a little too coifed-but he's cute and he's got a terrific body. I've always had a crush on Joseph Gordon-Levitt (Third Rock from the Sun) and I was a disappointed his character was such an ass.

Swanner: I thought it was a good cast as well. Except for Jacquline Bisset who was awful. As for the storyline, it worked well. We haven't tackled the Mormon thing in film much, so it felt fresh. The whole "I bet I can get him into bed" thing is a bit tired but every other 16 - 25 year old heterosexual film that comes out has the same plot device so I forgive them

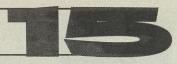
Judd: I liked that the movie wasn't the typical "shallow boy finds deep boy, hilarity ensues, they live happily ever after" plot. The story is superficial and there wasn't nearly enough character development, but at least C. Jay Cox (writer/director) added a little more than most moviemakers like non-token HIV+ characters and the struggle with the church. The subplot that I could have done without was Christian's room. Did we have to see her perform so often? I had to hit the fast forward button every time she opened her mouth.

Swanner: What I liked best about the movie is they kept true to romantic comedy formula. Even when things get heavier at the end with church issues, it never turns into to serious a drama. You have your tease/twist and then the satis-

fying ending. Judd: The struggle that Aaron was having with his family and the church was heartbreaking. When he got in that fight with his mother—I literally gasped out loud. The twist at the end was predictable, but the movie wouldn't have worked and would have been far too



### Q-TAINMENT



### Soul Plane is not a doomed flight

By Brian Judd/Q-Ragg

EFORE I WATCHED SOUL PLANE MY FRIENDS, BLACK AND WHITE, WARNED ME THAT THE MOVIE WAS STUPID, RACIST, AND JUST PLAIN BAD.

All this negativity set me up to watch what I thought was going to be one of the most horrible films ever made. While I have to say that Soul Plane was not good by any means, it wasn't completely horrible.

The basic plot is that Nashawn (Kevin Hart) loses his dog and his dignity on a plane. The court system awards him X million dollars and he decides to open his own airline that caters to African-Americans. On the plane's maiden voy-

age, we've got the captain (Snoop

and is afraid of heights. We've got

Nashawn's cousin Muggsy (Method

Man) who's entrepreneurial spirit is

the movie plays.

strong, but his idea's aren't exactly legal.

And we have the caucasian family, the

Hunkees—yeah, from this one joke you

can pretty much assume how the rest of

While I can't say that the majority of

were some very funny visuals. The plane had first-class, business class, and low

the written jokes were any good, there

Dogg) who earned his wings in prison

THE CAST OF SOUL PLANE

quarter to retrieve the key. The spinners on the jet's wheels were another funny visual. And in these days where kids, regardless of race, will put spinners on anything-84" rims are funny.

I guess the movie's biggest serious downfall was the offending stereotypes the movie used as fodder-and it wasn't the fact that the writers used offensive stereotypes, it's the fact that they didn't use them well. Some of it was funny, most of it was not. As I mentioned the caucasian Hunkee family, I wasn't offended by the name as much as I was offended that the writers thought I'd find it funny. Other stupid jokes included the African with the last name "Gaymon"-

> you know where that lead. The big gay steward (or is it flight attendant?) named "Flame". The list goes on.

> I guess since I have to rate this movie, I'm going to go with three bitch slaps. I was expecting much worse, which made what I got seem not as bad. I offer up this one caveat: do not see this movie if you consider yourself the

least bit politically correct.

If you suffer from Liberal Guilt, don't see this movie. If you feel bad about laughing at black people even though you're given permission, don't see this movie. If you're gay and can't laugh at yourself, don't see this movie. If you can't dumb down your senses and laugh at poop jokes and a man fingering a baked potato, don't see this movie.



### **Exorcist: The Beginning** is nothing to spew over

By Tom Swanner/Q-Ragg

HERE ARE FEW MOVIES THAT MAKE PEOPLE SHUDDER AS THOUGH SOMEONE IS WALKING OVER YOUR GRAVE.

JAWS, Psycho, zombie movies and, of course, The Exorcist. When The Exorcist opened in 1973 there were reports about theatres having trained medical personnel available because moviegoers were passing out and vomiting while watching the film because it was just too scary.

I went to see it—on a Sunday morning even. I left the theatre, squinting at the bright sun light, happy to have made it through the film still alive. Of course, I was 13 years old at the time and afraid of everything, so I fell for the media hype and to this day the film still scares me.

Seeing that Exorcist: The Beginning, the prequel to the film, was coming to theatres, I had to see it on the first day it was out so I wouldn't be tainted by anyone else's reaction. All I really knew about the movie was that it centered around Father Merrin and his first meeting with the demon Pazuzu. That, and I had heard this was the second attempt at "The Beginning" movie as the producers hated the first version so much that they fired the director, shelved the film, and brought in a new director create a brand new film.

Set 20 years before the original, we find that Merrin has given up on the church and is working as an archaeologist. Ex-priest/Archeologists are hard to find, but important when digging up an old church. He is hired to go to Kenya and bring back a small idol the Pazuzu idol he found in the original film. In the original film, during the back story, he had done an early exorcism while in Africa to a young boy who was the first to be possessed by Pazuzu.

I liked this film. It had its few good scares, it has a good look to it and the acting was well done. It really wants to be a companion piece to the original film,



LINDA BLAIR IN THE EXORCIST

something that you could watch in sequence with the first film and have more of a feeling for the character of Father Merrin.

Stellan Skarsgard stars as Merrin and it's uncanny how much they made him look like a young Max Von Sydow who created the role. It's easy enough to say that it's not as good as the original film. What a surprise, right? But don,t go to the film trying to compare it, it's not fair to either film. But I can compare it to The Exorcist II and III, both films of which are at best just laughable. But the new film stands on its own and also works as a companion piece. If you're an Exorcist fanatic, you might not like the film because the bar was set too high 30 years ago. but if you go in just to see a movie I think you might like it.

Where the first version that was shelved is, and what's going to happen to it, is a mystery, but if there,s a dollar to be made, then we should see it on DVD one day perhaps even in a special double release pack.

I'm going to give this flick two bitch slaps just because the one problem with prequels is that you know the main character will survive the film, so you never fear for his life and that takes away the edge needed to make this a really scary

Tickets - Still only \$8.50

(With pass to Opening Night

Festival passes - \$35

Gala Reception - \$60)

For more information:

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT (after Sep. 1):

class seating. Business and first class were what you expected. Low class looked like a city bus, complete with holding rings and lockers that required a

13th ANNUAL

SACRAMENTO INTERNATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN FILM FESTIVAL 



### **Opening Night Gala Reception**

Limited tickets available . Cost: \$35 Catering: Refer-a-Chef • Wines: Watts Winery (Includes admission to the first night of the festival.)

### October 6-10 at the Crest Theater



FEATURING THE FILM

Featuring the acting debut and music of openly-gay "American Idol Verraros, EATING OUT has played to sold-out festival audiences all ov the country and the world and garnered numerous awards for its superi acting performances and side-splitting funny dialogue.



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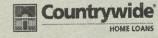
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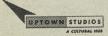


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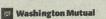
















# Monarch's fan appreciation day

By Tom Swanner/Q-Ragg

n August 19th I had the chance to spend the evening at Arco with The Monarchs. Every season The Monarchs organization invite their season ticket holders to a meet and greet, which gives fans a great opportunity to hang out with the players—and I mean really hang out.

Arco Arena was turned into a playground, with elements for everyone in the family. As we entered the arena there was a set looking like a livingroom, where throughout the night all the players (with the exception of Yolanda Griffith who is in Greece) sat down with an interviewer and took questions from the audience.

This was great way to get personal with the players and learn more about their lives outside of the game. We learned that Ruthie Bolton is recording a CD and Kara Lawson is a huge football fan.

Past the livingroom set is the actual court and past that are a selection of different activities. A Jurassic Park jumping house for the kids, autograph tables, picture area and a karaoke stage. The Karaoke was great fun with the players all taking turns at singing their favorite songs. Kara Lawson's "I've got friends in

low places" will haunt me for years, but the players really got to let their hair down and the fans loved it.

They were also giving tours of the locker rooms as well as the set-up rooms and waiting areas where they house celebrities viewers. We also had a chance to meet Monty, the dragon mascot, who showed off his costumes and props, which was great for the kids (and my other half).

Fans got to bring collectables for the players to sign. I enjoyed the chance to stand in the center of the court and really take in what it must be like viewing the arena from a player's point of view.

I think what we like best about The Monarchs is that they really love their fans. They know how important the fans are and don't take them for granted.

Loyalty does not go unnoticed in Sacramento and I applaud them for making everyone feel so welcome. At a time when so many sports/entertainment organizations are pulling back from the general public for security reasons, The Monarchs have opened up the house to make sure their fans know they are still welcome and appreciated. Being a season ticket holder really is valued with the Monarchs.

### Final Monarch's games of the season

Date	Opponent	Time	Local TV	Nat. TV	Radio
Sep 1 Wed	@ Seattle	7:30 pm	NBATV .		KHTK-1140
2 Thu	San Antonio	7:00 pm			KHTK-1140
4 Sat	@ San Antonio	5:00 pm			KHTK-1140
7 Tue	@ Washington	4:00 pm	News10	NBATV	KHTK-1140
9 Thu	@ Charlotte	4:00 pm			KHTK-1140
12 Sun	@ Los Angeles	1:00 pm	ABC		KHTK-1140
16 Thu	@ Houston	5:00 pm		ESPN2	KHTK-1400
18 Sat	Houston	7:00 pm			KHTK-1140
19 Sun	Minnesota	7:00 pm			KHTK-1140
*= All times	Local				

### Summer bowling comes to a close

Another summer league comes to an end. Congrats go out to the Chixs & Dixs for winning the team competition. They won it all with just a 2 1/2 game lead over second place team Odds N Ends. There was a three-way tie for third place between Any Markle Do, Too Many Men and Odd Person Out. It's been a fun summer at the AMF Land Park Bowl and before you can even take a breath, Winter Leagues are right around the corner. That's right, the Winter Bowling League starts on Sunday September 12th. If you're interested in being a part of the fun, be at Land Park Bowl before 5:30pm on the 12th to sign up. The top five places for the team competition for the summer leagues are: 1. Chixs & Dixs; 2. Odds N Ends 3. Any Markle Do, Too Many Men, Odd Person Out; 4. Bangers United; 5. SAC Gutter Sluts

### CAPITAL CITY HOOPSTERS WOMEN'S BAS-KETBALL GAME RESULTS for MONDAY, AUGUST 16TH, 2004. By Rachel "Ray-Ray" Raymond

WEEK 8 RESULTS—Well the regular season came to a spectacular end last Monday with nothing short of miraculous upsets, incredible play, and a three-way tie for second place. Congratulations must go out to Club 21 whose end of the season play was unstoppable and earned them the solo first place birth in the playoffs. Well done. If these final games were any indication, the play-offs are going to be a show not to be missed. Bring family, friends, and girlfriends to these games kids...just don't bring a weak heart.

Club 21 (38) vs. The Depot (27)—This game was being billed by the Depot and Club 21 as the game between first and second place. Call it prophesy or conceit, it was certainly a hard fought game for both clubs. The first half was really the fight between first and second place as the two teams went neck for neck into a one-point Depot lead at the half. Sometime after the break the Depot lost their heart or their hand, either way they barely eked out another 5 points for the night. Club 21's leaders were solid in the face of a fierce defensive effort. Melissa Gomez and Tonia White shared the spotlight for Club 21 with 12 points a piece, while Maria Richardson led the inside effort with 9 points and 6 rebounds. Bekky Wright was the only Depot Dawg with double digits at 10 points, while Lexi Loris struggled to put up 6 points and 2 assists.

#### Jammin' Jo (28) vs. Magale Chiro (26)

That's right folks you aren't seeing things...Jammin' Jo is on the left side of the score column. And I'm going to give myself props here by saying that I predicted this would happen (check week 4 game summaries on www.sacramentohoops.com). The key to Jammin' Jo's success? Defense, defense, defense. Kim Taylor had 6 steals for the night and Dana Irving kicked in another 5 for Jammin' Jo. Eleven lost possession will make a difference in a close game and on Monday night it made all of the difference. Holly Heggli led the scoring for Jammin' Jo with 10 points and 8 rebounds while Dana Irving complemented her defensive effort with 8 points and 6 rebounds. No player on Magale Chiro managed to get into the double digits. Jen Fong put up 9 points and 4 rebounds for the struggling Magale while Tammy White followed close suit with 8 points and 4 rebounds. Oh, and in case you weren't aware, it was Judy "J.P." Price who provided the motivation for the first and only regular season win for Jammin' Jo.

#### Whisler (37) vs. Outword (36)

Truly a nail-bitter, this game was worth staying till the wee hours of the night. With a last, split-second score by Joan Loucraft, Whisler walked away with the win. Only later to find out that the 3 team second-place tie would ultimately send them to a 4th place play-off seed. What was the blood, sweat, and tears for? Well, if you were able to watch Monday as one of the fans then you know...the game is what it is all about. Odelia "Ode" Johns was as collected under pressure as ever for Whisler, while Jeanie Huizar continued to show her scoring finesse. Yvette Rincon proved her Captain fitness for Whisler with incredible drives to the hoop. Outword's Trey Kenyon (12 points and 15 rebounds) was again an indomitable force, despite an early ankle injury. Kim Richard put up a huge effort for Outword with 10 points and 7 rebounds.

WEEK 4 LEADERS—POINTS: Melissa Gomez, Club 21 - 12 Tonia White, Club 21 - 12 Trey Kenyon, Outword - 12 Bekky Wright, The Depot - 10 Holly Heggli, Jammin' Jo - 10 Kim Richard, Outword - 10 REBOUNDS: Trey Kenyon, Outword - 15 Holly Heggli, Jammin' Jo - 8 Kim Richard, Outword - 7 Rachel Raymond, The Depot - 7 STEALS: Kim Taylor, Jammin' Jo - 6 Dana Irving, Jammin' Jo - 5 Charmaine Magale, Magale Chiro - 3 Melissa Gomez, Club 21 - 3 Tammy White, Magale Chiro - 3 ASSISTS: Kim Taylor, Jammin' Jo - 5 Melissa Gomez, Club 21 - 4 Kim Erlenwein, Jammin' Jo - 2 Kristy Schwee, Club 21 - 2 Lexi Loris The Depot - 2 Tonia White Club 21 - 2 BLOCKED SHOTS: Jade Tea, The Depot - 1 Melissa Gomez, Club 21 - 1 Tammy White, Magale Chiro - 1 \* Due to a stats book mix-up Whisler's stats are not included in this round of leaders.

www.sacramentohoops.com







### In Defense of Judicial Activism

By Daniel Roth President, Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento

N MAY, PRESIDENT BUSH COMMEMORATED THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION IN TOPEKA, KS. STANDING BEFORE AN ASSEMBLED CROWD, THE PRESIDENT SAID, "FIFTY YEARS AGO TODAY, NINE JUDGES ANNOUNCED THAT THEY HAD LOOKED AT THE CONSTITUTION AND SAW NO JUSTIFICATION FOR THE SEGREGATION AND HUMILIATION OF AN ENTIRE RACE."

The President is to be commended for defending the judicial activism exhibited in Brown. That decision put every American's constitutional right to equality before the law above the reigning public sentiment of the day. After all, who among us believes that white voters in 1954 would have voluntarily desegregated their public school systems?

But on the very same day the President praised the judicial activism in Brown, he scorned similar judicial action in Massachusetts. "The sacred institution of marriage should not be redefined by a few activist judges," the President said in reference to the same sex couples getting married in Massachusetts on May 17.

President Bush's hypocrisy is made even worse by Massachusetts
Governor Mitt Romney's efforts to thwart marriages sought by same sex couples that are residents of other states. Romney is invoking an antiquated 1913 law that originally intended to prohibit out-of-state interracial couples from marrying in the Bay State.

So despite the President's words of support for the Brown decision, perhaps it is fair to suggest that he has not learned the lessons of history. The truth is that America has long relied on the judiciary – not the elected branches of government or voters themselves – to settle matters of great social anxiety and to extend the benefits of civil rights to those previously excluded from them.

In mandating the desegregation of America's public school system, Brown helped break down one of the last remaining legal vestiges of slavery in America. And lest anyone forget, slavery itself was once considered a sacred American institution – one that pro-slavery members of Congress once declared was part of God's plan.

American history is enriched with other examples of judicial activism, though in the modern age, we hardly think of them in that context. Instead, we look back on them and wonder how it could have been any other way.

In 1803, the Supreme Court ruled in Marbury v. Madison that the judicial branch had the right to review the constitutionality of laws passed by Congress. At the time, President Thomas Jefferson fumed that the decision a "very dangerous doctrine indeed." But can any of us imagine what America would be like if Congress had the power to wantonly disregard the Constitution to enact whatever laws it wanted?

In 1963, the Supreme Court ruled in Gideon v. Wainwright that defendants charged with felonies have a right to legal counsel. Three years later, the Court said that individuals accused of crimes must

be read their rights in Miranda v.
Arizona. Both decisions helped
Americans understand their rights
under the due process clause. And
both arguably helped protect America
from devolving into a police state.

Some opponents of same-sex marriage have invoked the word "liberal" as well as "activist" when describing the Massachusetts justices who decided in favor of allowing gay and lesbian couples the right to marry. It is worth pointing out, however, that examples of conservative judicial activism abound, especially with regard to restricting the powers of the elected branches of government.

In the 2000 case U.S. v. Morrison, the Supreme Court struck down portions of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), a law that federalized crimes such as rape. Invoking a narrow interpretation of the Constitution's Commerce Clause, the conservative majority wrote that Congress had no authority to "regulate non-economic, violent criminal conduct based solely

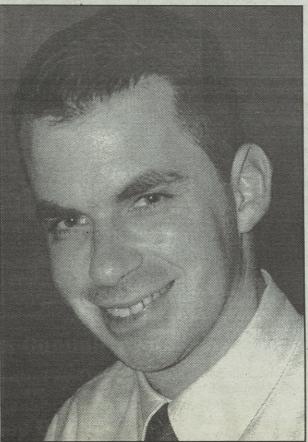


Photo By Curtis Hagan/Q-Ragg

on that conduct's aggregate effect on interstate commerce."

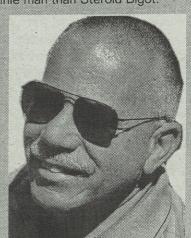
For better or worse, the founders of our democracy created an independent judiciary to protect minority rights from the tyranny of the majority. The decisions rendered by this equal third branch of government have sometimes startled and angered the public. And some of them remain open to debate. But as time progresses, our nation has inevitably looked back on decisions like Brown that expanded and protected American rights – and realize the crucial role the judiciary has played in helping us become a more perfect union.

President Bush, himself brought to the White House by an arguably activist Supreme Court, should not begrudge the extension of civil rights and the full benefits of citizenship to Americans hitherto excluded from enjoying them.

EMAIL DAN AT: DROTH@Q-RAGG.COM

### GIRLIE MEN, MY ASS!

am sure there are no gay men or lesbians in Sacramento who have not heard about Governor Steroids' comment that the Democratic legislators act like girlie men. (I am firmly convinced there are many Democrats in the legislature who certainly qualify as wimps, esp. the leadership. If I hear one more Democrat tell me that we should take the high road, I'm going to kill him. Has anyone in the last twenty years ever heard any Republican ever use the expression let's take the high road? Which explains why the Republicans control Congress and most of the state legislatures. It wasn't until Howard Dean and Moveon.org that we found Democrats with balls). But I digress. What makes me angry is all the talk from the Republicans that girlie men was meant to be funny and that Democrats need a sense of humor. Well, excuse me, but I don't think homophobia is funny. Nor is sexism or racism. And when the current Speaker of the Assembly. for the first time in six years, actually fought back and mentioned Governor Steroids' fake high heels, fake tan and fake hair, he was accused by the Governor's Communications Director of being small and petty. It's the old Republican victim hood campaign we can say whatever we want but if you say anything back then you're picking on us bullshit. Everyone in the USA knows what girlie men means - can you say faggot boys and girls. It's the very definition of homophobia - the fear and hatred of guys who supposedly act like women. Governor Steroids and his ilk, anyone on right wing talk radio or Fox, knows exactly what was meant. It was a direct put down of Democratic men who don't have the "bring 'em on" guts of real men. There was no secret meaning. There was no reference to wearing fake heels and tan. It was an absolutely clear appeal to bigotry and homophobia. It wasn't funny. It was hurtful. And this is one girlie man who's angry enough to tell Governor Steroids to go (insert Cheney comment) yourself. Better girlie man than Steroid Bigot.



Stonewall Democratic Club at www.sacstonewall.org

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### Learn a Lesson in Violence

By M.A. Ross/Q-Ragg

NE OF MY EARLIEST MEMORIES AS A CHILD WAS WATCHING MY STEPFATHER TOSS A FULL PLATE OF SPAGHETTI ACROSS A ROOM, SEEING IT SMASH AGAINST THE WALL AND WATCHING THE RESULTING MESS SLIDING DOWN AGAINST A WHITE WALL.

I remember a lot of slammed doors, a lot of yelling and my mother sitting on the front step crying. I recall myself trying to console her with promises of new toys if she would just stop crying. Even as a young child I knew that something was not right.

As I grew older under the watchful eyes of my mother, a different stepfather, and other older family members; one of the many things I was taught was that it was taboo at anytime to hit girls for any reason. As a child I didn't understand this logic as I was being educated in grade school about playing fair, sharing, and treating other with equality. It didn't seem right that a girl could hit me or do anything else she wanted to me and I was forbidden to defend myself. So, I finally asked why I wasn't allowed to hit girls even if I was just trying to protect myself. The kidsized explanation I got from my parental units was that "boys are stronger than girls are and that I should know better."

At the time I just accepted the facts in the simplified manner that they were given to me. It wouldn't be until later that I understood that when they said "boys are stronger than girls." what they really meant was "boys have more testosterone than girls." Not only does testosterone make a man's body physically stronger than a woman's body; it's the high-octane substance that fuels the boundless male sex drive. Women have some testosterone in their genetic make-up as well; it's just that men on a daily basis have about 20 times more testosterone than women generally

A side affect of testosterone is that it affects one's mood and can make one's demeanor malicious and violent. This comes in handy in a few situations, say on the hunt for a woolly mammoth with nothing but a sharp stick and a few stones or in times of combat with a mortal enemy, but not so good when it comes to solving relationship problems. This is where the "I should know better" part of the explanation comes into play.

Having seen violence used to try and solve relationship problems first hand. I have seen what violence does to people and what affect it has on those around them. Why would I resort to violence to solve my personal problems? Sure, it would feel good to release all of that stress and aggression all at once in a flurry of fists, but I also know the wake of devastation left behind would ripple outward and not only adversely affect my life, but also the lives of the people around me. Relatives, friends and complete strangers would be affected. These people could be haunted by memories of their own dealings with violence. Try explaining a fighting couple to a child seeing it for the first time. Try enjoying a day at the river or getting some sleep, when the couple next to you are airing there dirty laundry at 100 decibels. If you've ever been out in a public place and seen a couple fighting or lived next door to someone who abuses their spouse, then you know what I mean. That heavy feeling that you get in your chest when you hear two people screaming at each other like demons possessed.



Photo by Curtis Hagan

Then there are the nagging thoughts in the back of your head...should I say something? Notify the authorities? Or just not get involved? Maybe it's the couple's first fight, maybe their third, maybe their last...

If some brave soul does call the authorities, they must come and make a report of the situation. This may not sound like much, but if there is a paper trail that shows a pattern of violence the authorities have an improved ability to do their job.

Relationships will always have their highs & lows with problems that need to be worked out, but punching, kicking and yelling are not the proper tools to work through life's tribulations.

Trying to talk out your problems is always advantageous. But yelling and harsh words don't help and can leave some malicious mental scars and sow seeds of discontent. If you're talking, you can work out your problems verbally, rationally and with some amount of decorum instead of trying to solve them with physical violence.

Utilizing couple counseling is also helpful. Sharing your problems with a non-involved third party sometimes puts a fresh perspective on matters.

There are even some houses of worship that provide couple counseling to their parishioners. Sometimes no amount of talking or counseling will solve the problems and the patterns of violence don't stop—that's when you know it's time to move on with your life or you could end up losing it.

I've heard all the lame excuses as to why people stay with their abusive spouses. "We're staying together for the kids", "But I love him/her", "I can't afford to move out".

If I hear those excuses one more time by someone with swollen sobbing eyes, I think I'd retch on the spot. The "We're-staying-together-for-the-kids" excuse is just ridiculous. One of the best ways to teach children is to lead by example. What kind of example would you set for your children if you stay with someone who solves their problems with violence? Not a very good one I'm afraid. As for the "But-Ilove-him/her" excuse, if I said it once I've said it a million times... "Love doesn't come with a side of pummeling!" (My name is M.A. Ross and I approved this quote.)

The "I-can't-afford-to-move-out." excuse is somewhat valid, but if the abused person is serious about leaving a violent situation there are numerous places that can help. National Domestic Violence Hotline (800-799-7233) or locally in Sacramento there is W.E.A.V.E. (920-2952) Both are good starting points. These places can help or at least guide you in the right directions. The one thing these places can not do is force you utilize their help; you've got to sincerely want their help and then simply call them.

EMAIL COMMENTS TO: MROSS@O-RAGG.COM

Dear Mother, my co-worker is a mess! Her house is a disaster. She's a pack rat and I can barely walk through the front door. I don't know how her husband and kids haven't left home. I want to be a good friend. Do I tell her that she needs to clean up or should I just keep my mouth shut? Signed, Glad I'm not germaphobic

Honey, my sister in-law keeps her house the same way. I say it's better to be a real friend and tell your co-worker to clean it up, rather than let her continue with this behavior which could not only be a fire hazard but a heath issue not to mention her love life. What person is going to want to come home to that everyday? Give her that slap she needs to wake up. Rove Mother

Dear Mother, one of the guys I hang with complains about how he can never find anyone. He's not a bad looking guy it's the fact that he's too damn picky. He's looking for a Greek god and I keep telling him we're not in Greece! He's always depressed and sad, how can I help broaden his sights for a future husband? Signed, Helping the lonely

I know the type, Honey. Unfortunately if your friend is so shallow there might be nothin' you can say or do to change this. Your friend will have to realize that no one is perfect (not even Mother). It could take years of being alone to get him to snap out of his "Shallow Hal" attitude. On the other hand, you could suggest he move to Greece! \*\* Mother\*

Dear Mother, my best friend just went though a major surgery. The doctors gave her a strict diet to follow and my friend does just the opposite. The doctor says no sugar and she eats candy and ice cream, the doctor says no alcohol and she's drinking Cosmos at the bar. What should I do? I'm afraid for my friends health. Signed, Scared

You have to be a friend and use some tough Love. She obviously doesn't care about her health. Point out to her that Doctors don't give instructions after surgery for their health, but hers. If that doesn't work, bitch slap her every time you see her start to do these things. They are self-defeating and risking her health. If that fails find out who her doctor is and tell them. Your friend's life is at stake. \*\*Cove Mother\*

Dear mom, my brother has a terrible haircut. I mean really bad. He thinks he looks good but in reality he looks like he's receiving shock treatments. He doesn't take criticism very well, actually he doesn't take it at all. He'll just tell me I'm wrong and stop talking to me. What should I do? Signed, People are talking

Honey maybe a family intervention is needed here. This way at least he'll know he's looking foolish and will have more than just you to be mad at. Even if he does get mad and stops talking to you for a while, at least you'll be spared the embarrassment of being seen in public with him. \*\*Core Mother\*\*

EMAIL MOM AT: TALKTOMOTHER@Q-RAGG.COM

"Talk To Mother" is for entertainment purposes only. Neither The Q-Ragg nor the author can be held liable for any injury or loss, perceived or actual resulting from the above mentioned entertainment.



### **Butches and Femmes**

By Shira Davida Goldberg/Q-Ragg

NTIL I CAME OUT, I HAD NO UNDERSTANDING OF THE BUTCH/FEMME DYNAMIC. I MINORED IN LESBIAN STUDIES AS A COLLEGE STUDENT, UNAWARE THAT I WOULD HAVE A FUTURE AS AN EVOLVED HIGH-FEMME AND STILL WITHOUT THE CONCEPT OF WHAT A BUTCH/FEMME RELATIONSHIP WAS ALL ABOUT.

During my studies, I remembered that my sixth grade PE teacher must have been a soft butch. Sharing this mini-epiphany amongst my friends—so wa's everyone else's. It was not as uncommon as I thought, just new for me.

From an anthropological and psychological point of view, I've always been interested in Americanized subcultures. In my first lesbian studies class, I learned about the contributions of gays in literature, which opened a new door of understanding for me. My professor at the time drove to school on a Harley, and always wore a black leather jacket. She was attractive, strong, charismatic, unconventional, and had an edge to her. I liked that a lot. I then understood that she was a butch.

As I began to familiarize myself with this dynamic, I was introduced to the lesbians that are collectively known as "butches and femmes." Realizing that there are more definitions and modifiers to describe the variety, I started with the basics, like, 'sporty,' 'soft,' 'hard,' 'stone,' 'lipstick,' my excitement and curiosity grew.

But I still didn't understand the concept of the Butch/Femme relationship until I fell for a butch myself. Initially, I perceived all those tattoos and overall 'look' more reminiscent of an ex-convict—someone I saw in a movie at 2am, the plot based on women that overtook the guards at the state penitentiary and had lot's of sex. Quickly, I soon become conscious of my attraction for her, I thought she was sexy, a bad boi…like James Dean…like my professor.

My awareness of my attraction for her grew, as I noticed one-day that I actually cared what she thought about my hair, and as an astrological (although not logical) Leo, this enhanced and reinforced my overall look and demeanor. I asked her what she thought, as I considered cutting off my long, blond mane. Her opinion mattered to me. I knew at that moment, I was in die-hard lust. That was my initiation to the world of Butch/Femme.

Sexologists model this dynamic after the heterosexual concept of masculine male and feminized female gendered roles. Whatever the origin, we know them as preferences: what makes us "hot" for someone. The Butch/Femme dynamic, initially coined by sexologist Sigmund Freud in the 1920's, considered such relationships suspect and based in perversion. Now the connotation is more representative of lesbians that rise above gender stereotypes.

Recently, I have noticed many butch/femme couples out and about—little baby butches with their femmes "workin' it" at Club 21. It's incredible that there are so many, and that they are so confident, little cute bois so comfortable with their little chickie-poohs, their counterparts, their femmes, unaware that their butch and femme predecessors paved the way, privileged by the efforts of earlier generations that shaped and molded their self-assured existence.

As with any topic I am interested in, I began a quest, searching for resources, through books and talking to butches themselves. Historically, there were early twentieth-century Butch/Femme couples, such as Francis 'Frank' Willard, the American social reformer, and her femme, Anna Gordon, who together lead the Christian Temperance Union, or social

activists Frances Kellor, the butch and social scientist, a 'fearless tomboy, and the feminine Mary Drier, who were a couple for over 48 years, and also worked together formally as they fought for social betterment.

The new waves of young butches wearing their white wife-beater t-shirts and backwards hats are experiencing the opportunity to be themselves, as Butches. Nowadays, we see that representation is progressing, as more butch/femme couples emerge. No longer strangled by society's expectations and impositions, it's exciting to see that we are escaping the narrowness of biased opinions as we are creating our own niche. Butches and their femmes are seemingly everywhere, well, they are now that I am finally paying attention.

One of the best resources on the subject is a website, designed and maintained by a butch-femme couple: Daddy Rhon and Miz Chris. Butch-

Femme.com is a place that gives butches and femmes the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and people from around the world are signing up.

Times are ever changing. We are seeing it first hand, with national social events—this year's taking place in New Orleans. This year hundreds of butches and femmes will get to meet, many for the first time. It is a wonderful online community—I should know, that's where I met my butch.

Such resources are leading the path to acceptance and visibility through contact and understanding. We are experiencing historical precedents. By being aware, we are making waves of difference and leaving a huge impact

The butch/femme dynamic is such an example of the power of individuality, advocacy of civil rights and the American perspective, that all Butches and Femmes were created equal, unless of course you see some of them trying to dance at the club.

EMAIL SHIRA AT: SGOLDBERG@Q-RAGG.COM



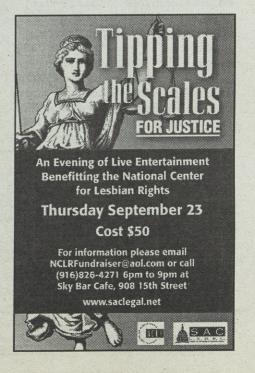
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Gay and Lesbian

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The Purpose Of The Rainbow Chamber Of Commerce
Is To Promote Networking Within The Gay And Lesbian
Business Community And Its Supporters.

For More Information
Please Call
916-532-3347
www.rainbowchamber.com





### Q-ART



### September's Second Saturday Art Walk

Uptown Studios"Reflections on Women; The Strength Within"

OCAL ARTIST SHIRA DAVIDA GOLDBERG IS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE MANY TALENT-ED LOCAL LESBIAN ARTISTS THAT WILL BE DISPLAYING THEIR AMBITIOUS WORKS AT TINA REYNOLDS' UPTOWN STUDIOS EXHIBITION, 'REFLECTIONS ON WOMEN; THE STRENGTH WITHIN' DURING SACRAMENTO'S SECOND SATURDAY ART WALK, WHICH WILL BE ON DISPLAY SEPT. 11 - OCT 1, 2004.

Shira says, "By highlighting art and introducing the culture that abounds within our LGBT community, such venues propel our perspective into the foreground." Her capacity for visual communication illustrates the variety and vitality of our community, generating a lot of interest, as her subject matter is representative of her own experiences as a lesbian, as a gay rights advocate, and as a professional artist, specializing in Lesbian and Gay fine art.

"Facilitating awareness through art leaves much room for discussion in a thought-provoking manner. My renderings show the appreciation I have for womyn, the relationships that I have with members of my own LGBT community and my optimism toward a more inclusive, positive representation of who we are, what we are and the direction we are going. Our historic and cultural influences, ranging from social reform, art, literature and politics, have shaped our sense of compassion. Despite our historical contributions, mainstream recognition remains at the very least indifferent, but that is ever changing.

Through her art, Shira Davida's focus exemplifies the extraordinary splendor and love she has for our LGBT Sacramento community, an empowering extraction of our true selves as lovers, friends, and extensions of each other. "It is our duty to execute a more powerful stance against homophobia, not only for ourselves but for humanity. It is my hope that we each find a way to broaden ourselves, to reach out to our LBGT community so that we can all be so powerfully enhanced."

Shira Davida's pieces are a compilation from various sources. She finds that working from life is an integral and essential part of the process. Her innovative brushstrokes and outlook make her work distinctive. Her subject matter is quite befitting as her compositions portray an emotionally distinctive attachment, responsiveness to the traits and individual qualities that bind us and help us explore our relationships between each other. In her overall compositions, she uses color and shadow to intensify mood and provoke feeling, as she induces a creative power and bond that the viewer can identify with. Always with an artistic eye, she captures the figurative and literal sentiment that abounds from the ordinary to the extravagant. She finds inspiration comes from her own reflections, other artists, photographers and relationships, each providing a component in her process. As Vincent van Gogh once said, 'Art is something which, although produced by human hands, is not created by these hands alone, but something which wells up from a deeper source within our

Each composition tells a story by initiating an interactive experience. She is passionate in her pursuit to increase LGBT visibility through her pieces, providing others an opportunity to experience first hand the rising influence and constructive impact of the relationships between each of us by enhancing the perspective and narrative of the piece and the beholder.

With such impressive talent so prevalent in Sacto more and more artist and aficionados alike are 'coming out' in droves on Second Saturdays,

enjoying the wealth of our own local LGBT artists. Artists once void of opportunity now have an outlet for expression and a new audience in an embracing and friendly atmosphere. Depth of vision and purpose within our community are inspiring as we continue to be a source of creative fusion allowing more visibility.

"These conduits are generating a flurry of innovative distinctiveness and exceptionality that each of us possess. My fervor for art, such a powerful medium to impart influence, challenges stereotypes, shows that we are making our mark, that we are indeed a force to be reckoned with. We are showing others how truly beautiful and talented we really are. There lies our strength. We are all role models and activists, each contributing in our own way, making the road a little easier for those that will follow in our footsteps. Such representation is indeed cross generational."

In all previous and current social advocacy efforts, Shira Davida continues to inspire others to get involved in a capacity perhaps not thought possible. It is easy to recognize just how valuable it is for our society to see how such influences are able to assert such a universal message. It is all the more affective when voiced by our own LGBT resources.

Shira Davida's paintings are wideranging and far-reaching. Having recently received much fanfare, her work has been described as, 'edgy,' 'prolific,' 'sexy' and 'sensual.' Her art has recently been on exhibition having a one-womyn show at the Open Book, an extended two month show at the Lavender Library and recently had her

Second Saturday exhibition August 14, 2004 at the Lavender Library, Archives and Cultural Exchange (LLACE). The show will be hosted from Aug 7-Sept. 6. Not only is Shira Davida's art a symbol of her visceral connection, but of her ability to communicate the exquisiteness of the love between lesbians, between gay men and our connection as vital representatives making our own mark, being valued most importantly by each other. Her art has incorporated an egalitarian, feminist and gay expression.

The integrity and emotional sustenance that are reflected in her pieces embody a personal pursuit for social equality. Through her art Shira Davida Goldberg offers a glimpse into eyecatching, thought provoking depictions of LGBT pride. We encourage our LGBT community to the reception, which will be hosted from 6-10 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 11. Meet the artists, view the work, and schmooze amongst the artistic ambiance of one of Sacramento's influential and beneficial communal resources while supporting our community. You will no doubt find a sense of culture and atmosphere, whether your taste is avant-garde, impressionist or somewhere in between. For more information, please contact:

Uptown Studios 912 1/2 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814 http://www.sacsisterhood.com Tel. 916.446.1082

Lavender Library, Archives and Cultural Exchange (LLACE)
1414 21st Street
Sacramento, CA 95816
http://www.lavenderlibrary.org
Email: art@lavenderlibrary.org
Tel. 916.492.0558

### Club Kids in Candyland

By Ricky Diaz Anaya/Q-Ragg

t's amazing what LGBT youth have as resources nowadays in the Sacramento area. When I came out as an 18 year old lesbian in San Jose I never had quite the support or entertainment scene local youth have here. Sunday August 22nd I attended Bojangles Dance Club held inside Club 21 near Faces. Each Sunday they have a no cover 18 and over night that packs in 200+ dancing LGBT youth. And no I'm not exaggerating, this was my fourth time visiting Bojangles on Sundays.

Tonight's theme was Club Kids in Candyland like the board game and patterned after the club kids who would dress up in outrageously wild outfits put together from stuff they'd find in their closets and garages. When arriving, I was greeted by a friendly security officer who carefully screens youth for proper id and drugs.

Next, I looked around and was pleased at the amount of effort the club placed in decorating in Candyland board game

style. There were colored blocks pasted throughout the dance floor itself, giant butterscotch and other types of candies hung throughout. As well as about 10 staff and volunteers dressed up in pleasing and outrageous costumes and were passing out blue and pink cotton candy to the club kids for free.

Michael Hlyzoff is the manager and tells me that they usually have a theme each Sunday and in the past they've had very successful pajama, military dress, underwear theme nights. In addition he adds that on Sundays they have an Improvisational Drag show at midnight. I can attest to the high entertainment value of the three shows I've seen. The crowd love the shows too....just imagine how hard it is keeping several hundred youths attention for a half an hour!

Other Bojangles entertainment includes amateur strip night, dance exhibitions from guest performers as well as audience members, and a sexy best buns contests. Michael tells me that Wednesday Bojangles is the busiest night of the week packing in 300+ youth and is 27 year tradition in Sacramento.

style. There were colored blocks pasted throughout the dance floor itself, giant butterscotch and other types of candies myself to some of the youth at the club in order to gain further insight into the Bojangles and tonight's Candyland experience from the youth themselves.

I decided to introduce

I met Jenn A., a 19 year old who identifies as "straight, but I've had experiences and want more", Matt T., a 20 year old who identifies as "controversial", and Joe who is 19 years old and identifies as Bisexual. "I love how free the atmosphere is, everyone can be themselves without fear of homophobes. It's a place where people my age can connect" says Joe. Jenn adds "It Iatmosphere! makes you feel free. The music is off the hook! You just go with the flow."

"I'm introverted outside of work. And I come here to have fun. I feel really comfortable dancing even though I don't know how to dance. There's a lot of people too who don't know how to dance and nobody cares" says Matt.

Jenn, Matt, and Joe all go to the American River College and come together here as friends. When I asked them if they knew what the Lambda center was or that there was a successful youth LGBT youth group held on

Wednesday nights, they replied no. Of course, I told them all about the center and how wonderful the youth group is hoping they would discover other valuable youth resources available to them.

Michael also adds that for the Rainbow Festival weekend at Faces youth will be able to party to guest singers Pepper Mashay, Jeannie Tracy, and Crystal Waters.

To contact Bojangles manager Michael Hlyzoff you can email him at SacClubGuy@gay.com



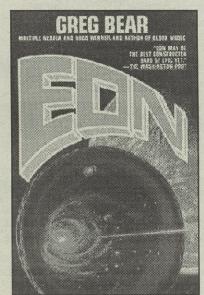
### Open Book announces new arrivals

Provided by the Open Book, Ltd.

HESE BOOKS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE OPEN BOOK, LTD. AND ON ITS WEB SITE OPENBOOKLTD.COM/NEWAR-RIVALS.SHTML

EON, by Greg Bear. (TOR/Tom Doherty Associates, 1986, 503 p., ISBN 0812520475). (Fantasy & Science Fiction - General). The 21st century was on the brink of nuclear confrontation when the 300 kilometer-long stone flashed out of nothingness and into Earth's orbit. NASA, NATO, and the UN sent explorers to the asteroid's surface...and discovered marvels and mysteries to drive researchers mad. For the Stone was from space—but perhaps not our space; it came from the future but perhaps not our future; and within the hollowed asteroid was Thistledown—the remains of a vanished civilization—a human civilization with seven vast chambers containing forests, lakes, rivers, and hanging cities. And museums described the Death; the catastrophic war that was about to occur; the horror and the long winter that would follow. But while scientists and politicians bickered about how to use the information to stop the Death, the Stone yielded a secret that made even Earth's survival pale into insignificance.

A GIRL, IN PARTS: A NOVEL, by Jasmine Paul. (Counterpoint, 2002, 241p., \$14.95, ISBN 1582432856). (Fiction - General). In the early 1980s in Martinsburg, West Virginia, Dorothy lives with her bartending mother, her barattending stepfather, and her sweetly precocious little brother. At the age of nine, Dottie is plagued by insomnia, asthma, earaches, and bad teeth.



She is lonely and insecure, but her keen perception enables her to see every detail of her impoverished rural surroundings and the strange characters around her. When her family moves to eastern Washington state, Dottie-confused, petulant, feeling more alone than ever, and furious at her changing bodybattles her way through junior high, where she finds a measure of success and recognition in sports and academics. But her hard-won little victories are tempered by her troubled family and friends, and she finds solace and distraction in alcohol, cigarettes, and general misbehavior. Dottie is indomitable: she emerges triumphantly as a young woman with limitless dreams and confidence in an uncertain world.

MR. BENSON, by John Preston. (Cleis Press, 2004, 219 p., \$14.95, ISBN 1573441945). (Gay Erotica - Fiction & Nonfiction; Gay Erotic Fiction). Jamie wears his tightest jeans to the leather bar and makes sure the handsome, unsmiling top across the room gets a good view of his assets. But this is no ordinary leatherman, no weekend daddy: this is Mr. Aristotle Benson. Lucky Jamie is about to get an education and to begin his journey from a cute but forgettable clone to a compliant, hard-bodied slave, sensitive to his Master's every glance and gesture. John Preston's classic S/M story was first published in the heady, post-Stonewall sex boom of the late 1970s and quickly became an underground classic.

FUNERAL GAMES, by Mary Renault. (Vintage Books, 2002, 335 p., \$14.00, ISBN 0375714197). (Gay Fiction). "Funeral Games" is a fascinating account of the violent struggle for succession that followed Alexander's death. As the King's only direct heirs were two unborn sons and a simpleton half-brother, every political faction exploded into the vacuum of power. All vied for the loyalty of an increasingly undisciplined Macedonian army, and the majority of Alexander's officers, family, and even friends were implicated. Many went to extraordinary lengths, most failed and were killed. No one, it turned out, possessed the visionary leadership to keep the great empire from crumbling, but Alexander's legacy endured to spread into worlds he had seen only in dreams. In this intricately plotted work, Renault has re-created this chaotic time to provide what Gore Vidal has called "one of this century's most unexpectedly original works of art."



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WRITER BLAIR MASTBAUM

### Q-RAGG NEWSPAPER

717 K Street, Ste. 519, Sacramento CA 95814 newsline 916.247.7244 faxline 916.381.8121

### WHAT IS NEWS

Many of us are used to thinking that news is something "beyond ourselves"—Federal Marriage Amendments, San Francisco Parades, and the like. But news that interests a community is sometimes about...YOU. As members of the Sacramento GLBT community, we sometimes get so bogged down in the news of the world, we lose track of what's going on in our own community. Q-Ragg wants to not only keep our community up to speed on what's going on within our city limits, but celebrate who we are and what accomplishments we make along the way. Q-Ragg strives to be Sacramento's hometown GLBT newspaper, reporting on the lives of our community.

### KNOW THY NEIGHBOR

Some folks may think it's odd that Q-Ragg calls folks by their first names, uses a familiar voice for feature stories, and allows Q-Voice to present opinions that go against the gay status quo. Q-Ragg believes a community paper is a mirror of its hometown and that, in essence, we are all neighbors. We are one community with many voices, and however different those voices may be, we are all working, ultimately, for the same goal: a strong, cohesive community treated with equality and respect. To achieve that, we've got to get familiar with one another, and what our community has to offer us.

### WWW.Q-RAGG.COM SEND US YOUR Q-MUNITY NEWS

SEND US NEWS (news@q-ragg.com)

Q-Ragg wants to fill its pages with the Sacramento GLBT community and that means YOU. Keep our email and fax number handy, and when you come across something you think is interesting, send it to us. Stories such as the Lavender Library is now renting the new Queer As Folk, the Lambda Center got 20 new volunteers in one month, you just signed a book deal, you went to the capitol to protest and want to tell how it affected you, a new nonprofit just opened its doors, the Valley Rainbow Pages just hit record sales, your fundraiser had excellent attendance. All these are things we may overlook as not newsworthy, but Q-Ragg believes these are the things that reflect our community and who we are, as much as stories about the FMA and SF Pride, perhaps even more so, as they are close to home and involve the people and places we see on a regular basis.

SEND US EVENTS (events@q-ragg.com)

Q-Ragg wants to make certain your event is listed in our calendar. When submitting an event, please be certain to include the Who, What, When, Where and any details about the event we should know. Also, please include the name, phone number and email address of who to contact for follow-up information. Photos can be emailed to: photos@q-ragg.com (Preferred photo type: tif or jpeg image, 300 dpi. Hard copy images may be mailed to our office, or dropped off in person during business hours.)

IOIN US IN CELEBRATING Q- SACRAMENTO'S GLBT Q-MUNITY VOICE



### Q-EVENTS



### BE SEEN!

To get your event listed, send your press release to: Q-Ragg, P.O. Box 162699, Sac, CA 95816 or send us a fax at 916.381.8121. You can also send us your info

You can also send us your info in an email at events@q-ragg.com.
Remember to include the who, what, where, when & why of your event!

### SEPTEMBER

### 3 FRIDAY I HATE HAMLET

Q-Munity member and award-winning actor Paul Fearn makes his directorial debut at the chataqua Playhouse, by directing the classic I Hate Hamlet. The show continues through Oct. 2nd, Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays (Sept. 5, 12, 19) at 2pm, Tickets \$12 916.489.7529

### Protesting Violence Against Women Around the World

### 25TH ANNUAL WOMEN TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

(Sacramento) – Sacramento celebrates its 25th annual Women Take Back the Night, an international grassroots event that protests violence against women worldwide. WTBN of Sacramento proudly announces that Sacramento is the home of the longest continuous running Take Back the Night annual event we are aware of. This year's special anniversary program will include an entire month of exciting events, culminating with the traditional March and Rally.

"These events provide the community of Northern California with an opportunity to re-affirm its commitment to ending the violence that threatens the personal safety and infringes upon the freedom of women. This program serves as a collective voice for women to demand a world in which women's bodies, minds and spirits are not targets of violence." - Maryanne Henke, President Sacramento National Organization for Women

"Joining in on our month long calendar of events is a great a way to celebrate 25 years of grassroots activism in Sacramento, learn more about what you can do to end the epidemic of violence against women, meet local and international activists, and also have a great time with like-minded friends in your community!" - Julia Day, Vice President of N. CA Association for Women Take Back the Night

### Calendar of Events (9/11/04 - 10/2/04):

Art Show - 9/11/04: Reflections of Women: The Strength Within; Second Saturday juried art show: Uptown Studios, 912 1/2 J Street, Sacramento, 6 pm (show continues throughout October 1)

**Film Premiere - 9/16/04:** Paulina; Land rights and body rights clash in award winning docudrama about a woman wronged; Crest Theatre, 1013 K Street, 7 pm; tickets \$9.50

**Spoken Word Event - 9/17/04:** Reflections on Women: The Strength Within, spoken word, passion, and activism; Uptown Studios, 912 1/2 J Street, 6 pm Mixer, 8 pm Performance

Self Defense Workshop - 9/18/04: Trade Your Fear For Anger will feature well known local self-defense expert Midge Marino in a demonstration of physical and psychological self-defense techniques for children and women; YWCA, 1122 17th Street, 9 am – 12 noon, Cost: \$35; to register call (916) 927-5651

International Conference - 9/25/04: Making the Connection: International Dialogue on Violence Against Women featuring prominent women from around the world in a discussion of personal violence using a global lens; California State University Sacramento, Student Union, Redwood Room, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Preregister by 8/31/04 Students: Free/ \$15 at door; Seniors: \$10/\$15 at door; Adults: \$20/\$30/\$35 at door; information and to register, call 278-7388

Holly Near in Concert - 9/25/04: Holly Near is an outspoken activist/ singer/songwriter in the feminist and peace movements who is celebrating her 30th year of music for social change; California State University Sacramento, Student Union Ballroom, 8pm, Student: \$15/ Adults: \$20 advance, \$25 door; 7 pm Auction/Reception, 8 pm Concert; For tickets call (916) 278-4323 or go to: www.tickets.com

March/Rally - 10/2/04: Women Take Back the Night rally will include music, activists speaking out against sexual assault and domestic violence. a survivor speak out, victim memorial, resource tables from many local organizations and more. To conclude the evening, women and children march through the streets of Sacramento in a symbolic reclaiming of the night and the right to move about safely in one's community. Men's/ children's program. West Steps of the State Capitol, 7 pm; Free

ALL EVENTS AND INFORMATION CAN BE ACCESSED AT: WWW.WOMEN-TAKEBACKTHENIGHT.ORG FOR QUESTIONS OR TO SCHEDULE AN INTER-VIEW: PLEASE CONTACT JULIA DAY OR MARYANNE HENKE AT 448-2321, EXT. 520

### 4 SATURDAY

#### PSYCHO SEASON PARTY

Help kick off Lambda Players' 16th season with murder and mayhem with their season sponsor Uptown Studios. Free food, free admission, free art and free fun. Bar available. No RSVP needed, just grab a friend an come on by. Uptown Studios, 912 1/2 J Street, Sacramento, 6:30 pm

### 5 SUNDAY \*\*RAINBOW FESTIVAL\*\*

#### Emperor Gary Vickers and Empress Raquel Lincoln The Court Imperial of CGNIE, Sacramento California present: WIN A CLASSIC CAR! 1966 Ford Thunderbird Landau, 428cid - Good Condition, Runs Nice! That's Right -CGNIE's Court Imperial is giving away A CAR!! \$5 PER ENTRY. Net proceeds benefit local charity. You need not be present to win! OUT OF TOWN AND WANNA WIN? Contact Empress Raquel: empress31cgnie@aol.com CGNIE, Inc will file appropriate title transfer upon acceptance for delivery. Winner responsible for License, Registration, Sales Tax, Insurance and all other fees. CGNIE, Inc. is a Non-Profit California Corporation, Federal ID#942808829 Void where Prohibited.

#### 10 FRIDAY

#### PSYCHO BEACH PARTY

Lambda Players first show of the season opens at the Geery Theatre 2130 L Street (L & 22nd). call 916.484.4742 for ticket reservations.

### 12 SUNDAY

\*\*SACRAMENTO AIDS WALK\*\*

### 23 THURSDAY

GINA LIVINGSTON LIVE, 6-9PM at the SAC Legal Annual Fundraiser/at Skybar, in downtown Sacramento. ginalivingston.com for more info.

### **OCTOBER**

### 1 FRIDAY

**GINA LIVINGSTON LIVE**, 8PM- Uptown Studios- Women's Music Night ginalivingston.com for more info.

### 8 FRIDAY

### BLAIR MASTBAUM AT THE OPEN BOOK

Q-Ragg and the Open book are cosponsoring a special one time reading with author Blair Mastbaum of his book "Clay's Way", hailed to be a gay Catcher In The Rye. Blair will be appearing at the Open book at 8pm, 910 21st St. in Sacramento. He will also be available to sign copies of him book for purchase.

### 16 SATURDAY

# HANDSOME WOMEN FASHION AND DRAG KING SHOW, Bring on the tuff women, the butches, the handsome one's, the women that look like teenage boys, the women that make us swoon. Mixer, art and fun from 6-7:30 then bring on the gender-bending from 7:30-9:30 pm, This will be a drag king show, fashion show, comedy show extravaganza, if you want to be included IN the show contact Tina@uptownstudios.net

### LAMBDA COMMUNITY CENTER SCHEDULE

#### Sunday

### Women's Coming Out Group 6PM-7:30PM

Open to women of all ages, at any stage of coming out.

### WomenComingOut@lambdasac.org

#### Monday

#### MEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 6PM Open to men of all ages investigating "coming out" issues.

mencomingout@lambdasac.org

#### MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP, 6:30PM Explore gay-related issues in a supportive, non-judgmental environment.

### mensgroup@lambdasac.org Over the Rainbow Group of NA,

A 12-step program for men and women trying to overcome a narcotics addiction.www.na.org

### LAMBDA LAW REFERRAL SERVICE, 5:30PM

### Wednesday

#### WOMYN ON WEDNESDAY, 7PM

For socialization and to discuss issues that Lesbian and bisexual women may find very important. womensgroup@lambdasac.org

### FIRST STAGES, 1ST & 3RD WEDS., 8-

### PM

Support/discussion group for youth 18-29 who are recently diagnosed with HIV. firststages@lambdasac.org

### **Friday**

### BREAKING BARRIERS/LAMBDA YOUTH GROUP, 8PM

Fun, educational, and thought provoking discussions that tackle topics facing queer youth today youthgroup@lambdasac.org

### www.qragg.com/ riog

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND? THE ELECTION? THE HRC? GAY MARRIAGE? THE PRICE OF GAS? THE NEW WILL & GRACE? THE EXPANSION OF FACES? THE RAINBOW FESTIVAL? WHY WAS MARGARET CHO FIRED? WHATEVER THE QUES-TIONS—WHATEVER YOUR ANSWERS-YOUR VOICE WILL BE HEARD. VISIT THE Q-BLOG TODAY AND LET LAVENDER HEIGHTS KNOW HOW YOU FEEL!

### SACRAMENTO'S GLBT COMMUNITY VOICE



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Businesses wishing to be listed in THE BUSINESS DIRECTORY WITHOUT PLACING A DISPLAY AD WILL BE CHARGED A \$10 PER ISSUE FEE.

#### **AIDS-HIV SERVICES**

**Breaking Barriers, 447-AIDS** www.breakingbarriers-sacramento.org Capitol City AIDS Fund www.capcityaidsfund.org

#### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Best of Broadway, 974-6280 4010 El Camino, www.bestofbroadway.org Lambda Players, 484-4742 www.lambdaplayers.com Uptown Studios, 446-1082 912 1/2 J St., www.uptownstudiosgallery.com

#### Bars/Nightclubs

The Bolt, 649-8420 2560 Boxwood, www.theboltbar.com Club 21, 443-1537 1119 21st St, www.club21sacramento.com FACES Nightclub, 448-7798 20th & K, www.faces.net

#### Business Resources

Rainbow Chamber Commerce, 532-3347

www.rainbowchamber.com

Valley Rainbow Pages, 444-2322 www.valleyrainbowpages.com

#### Men's Organizations

Sac. Valley Leathermen, 486-5500 www.svlclub.org Sacramento Valley Bears www.sacvalleybears.org

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